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CHARITY AND GDPR INFORMATION EVENING
FOR CLOGHER DIOCESE PARISH PERSONNEL IN NI

On Thursday, 13th February 2020 at 8pm
in St. Macartin’s Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen

This event will focus on Charity Accounts, The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) submissions and GDPR.

A representative from CCNI has kindly agreed to attend and to give a presentation.

( Please see information in “News for Vestries” on Page 66)
Dear Friends,

THE ART OF BEING CIVIL

“Civility costs nothing and is easily carried,” my father used to say. He was talking about ordinary politeness in everyday life-at work, in company and in the home. Perhaps primarily in the home and with the family. But civility as a civic and political virtue goes a lot deeper than mere politeness and has been in rather short supply for the past three years in the politics of Great Britain and (with few exceptions) in the politics of Northern Ireland since 1921. It will be interesting to see if the anti-civility pathogen has spread south when the extended Fianna Fail/Fine Gael hand fasting comes to an end in the 2020 election.

As a political virtue, civility doesn’t mean being nice all the time, although at heart it is animated by the conviction that your opponent is not your enemy. Indeed civility is very robust in its approach because it won’t take refuge in easy ad hominem arguments. Even when your opponent’s motives might easily be challenged, civility will first address his or her arguments.

Civility has its limits. It will not eradicate polarisation in politics. Perhaps there was no political player who had a greater respect for civility and whose mode of discourse was more civil than Martin Luther King, yet he was certainly a polarising political figure.

Nor can civility in and of itself provide the sort of inspired leadership which involves the courage, technical skill and wisdom which is needed to break out of the weary maze which has been the daily, monthly and yearly round of political life in Northern Ireland for the past umpteen years. But it can provide the political atmosphere which will allow arguments to slowly mature and fructify. And by a focus on the argument, not on the person, (or the “tradition” from which they come) a path to such leadership can be found.

Something momentous is happening, for good or ill, across Europe and within the UK. This island will catch some of the down draught. We are at a time between times. And if the times into which we are moving aren’t to become either a simple facsimile of the pages of recent history or descend into something even worse, then some fundamental ingredient in our political culture needs to change and to be changed intentionally. Civility is an active virtue and needs to be cultivated. Unlike sloth or folly it cannot simply be caught. Think of the gargantuan efforts made by Abraham Lincoln to entrench civility in American political life after the American Civil War. Or closer to home, the heroic reticence of someone like Sean Lemass in relation to the death of his brother.

Civility deepens and enriches human engagement across all sorts of divides, because it carries with it an assurance of respect. Northern Ireland is a very small place with limited human capital. In order for it to prosper it needs to encourage a dialectic of ideas across the whole spectrum of society and an openness to throw ideas into a melting pot and to seriously debate them. That will be an essential element in moving beyond peace as an absence of violence into something which is potent and fertile. Able to conceive and bear its own children.

In other places this function of civil debate is often lubricated by the output of think tanks (even where they are clearly “aligned”). These have been in short supply or short-lived in Northern Ireland. But we have in our Universities academics who are very practised and willing to be engaged in the public sphere and whose expertise is woefully underused.

Academics follow the evidence and push forward new ideas, many of which can be rather discommodating to practising politicians and civil servants, not to mention churches. And many new ideas do indeed turn out to be vainly faddish or out of proportion to other truths. But the only way to separate the gold from the dross is through civil engagement. To throw the ideas onto the table and for the debate to take place. Robust and maybe even a bit bruising but such debate all comes within the terms of civility.

The churches have a great deal to learn from civic engagement and debate, not least where we are to locate ourselves within the public space. But just maybe we have one or two small things of our own to contribute. Perhaps one of these is the practice which goes under the uncatchy title of “receptive ecumenism”. This does not seek to persuade the other tradition that they are wrong and that you are right. Instead it is much more like showing one another an album of family photographs - an explanation of heritage and a demonstration of love and common human experience. It is natural to love one’s own family more than another’s and their own photograph album more than another family’s. Yet oddly enough it is because of this that we might appreciate the love which someone else has for their own family. And in that understanding lies respect and openness.

In Ireland, North and south we have a facility for language. It is easy for us to use, so perhaps it is not unexpected that it should sometimes become facile. Just too easy to think of and express the cutting phrase or the slightly cruel riposte; the ugly sneering put down. But in a society and in a political culture marked by civility that way of talking to one another would feel as out of place as Donald Trump in Finland. Or is that a rather uncivil thing to say?

+John Clogher
Services
Sunday 2nd 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

Notice
Aghadrumsee 200th anniversary books and calendars still available.

Thanks
Thank you to all those who helped make Christmas in our churches such a special time. Our Sunday Schools, organists and choir, those who decorated our churches or who helped at the children's parties, to Dean Raymond Ferguson for his ministry to us on Christmas Day and all the Ferguson family for their truly wonderful concert ‘Prelude to Christmas’. Finally thanks to all who came to worship, remembering again the new born king our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Kidney Care talk
On Monday 24th February at 8.00pm Jo-Anne Dobson from Kidney Care will visit Clogh to talk about the work of the charity and receive the money raised at the children's Christmas service. Everyone welcome.

Clogh Bowling Club
This takes place each Wednesday at 8.00pm. The pairs tournament took place recently. Congratulations to Karol Bradshaw and Michael McGrade who were the winners and to Jamie West and Jamie Morrow runners up. Prizewinners were presented with their trophies by Sean McClusker from SMC Truck Parts, one of our sponsors. Thanks to all our sponsors and all who took part, great bowling over all the nights. Also thanks to the ladies of the parish who provided the tea each evening.

Clogh Mothers' Union
– Monday 3rd February at 8.00pm.

Aghadrumsee Select Vestry
– Tuesday 4th February at 8.00pm

Young Ladies Group
– Tuesday 11th February at 8.30 pm in Clogh Hall when we hope to make some tasty treats under the guidance of a representative from Lough Erne Cakes.

Ash Wednesday
– Group service in Aghadrumsee on Wednesday 26th February at 8.00pm

Parish Group Lent Study
Does your faith influence the way you live your life? In our Lent study this year we will discuss this and will be using ‘Living
Distinctively the theme DVD of Spring Harvest 2010. Designed as a small group resource, it considers what it means to live distinctively in a time of uncertainty. It interviews a number of Christian people who seek to put their faith into action in their respective fields. The study will take place in the Rectory on 10th and 17th February and 9th, 16th and 23rd March starting with refreshments at 7.45pm. Everyone welcome.

Aghadrumsee 200th Anniversary Events
- Sunday 8th March 2020 - Favourite Hymns Service with Revd Olivia Downey.
- Saturday 21st March 2020 - Beetle Drive.
- Sunday 10th May 2020 - Picnic in Rossmore Park, Monaghan following the Service in Aghadrumsee.

Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th June - Display of Wedding Dresses and Christening Gowns, the final event of our celebrations culminating with a service on the Sunday at 7.00pm with the Revd Canon Betty Thompson.

Baptism
On Sunday 15th December the baptism of Ella Daisy Moore, daughter of Richard and Joanne took place in Drumsnatt, we wish them God's Richest Blessing at this special time.

Sympathy
Our sincere sympathy goes to Mervyn, Helen, Janette and Louise Farrell and their extended family on the death of Helen's mother, Mrs Dunlop. We also remember all those who have been bereaved in recent months.

Services

FEBRUARY
Sunday 3rd February
10.45am Colebrooke Holy Communion with Holy Baptism
12.15pm Cooneen Holy Communion
Sunday 9th February
10.45am Colebrooke Morning Prayer
12.15pm Cooneen Morning Prayer
Sunday 16th February
11.00am Family Service at Cooneen
Sunday 23rd February
10.45am Colebrooke Morning Prayer
12.15pm Cooneen Morning Prayer

FROM THE REGISTERS

Christian Burial
On Tuesday 3rd December 2019, in St Ronan's, Colebrooke, a service of thanksgiving for the life of Margaret (Peggy) Elizabeth Lynn, latterly of Old Henry Street, Enniskillen was held, with committal in the adjoining cemetery. Our condolences and prayers are with Wilma, Jacqueline, David, Sylvia, Tom, Mabel and Stella.

On Sunday 29th December 2019, a service of thanksgiving for the life of Steven Keys was held in St Margaret's, Clabby (kindly granted), with committal in Clabby cemetery. Our prayers and condolences are with Kim, Jamie, Scott, Jim, Merilyn and everyone in the wider family circle.

On Tuesday 14th January 2020, a service of thanksgiving for the life of Eva Dunlop was held in Holy Trinity, Cooneen, with committal in Colebrooke cemetery. Our condolences and prayer are with Ethel, Kenny, Noel, William, Helen, Admin, Yvonne and their families.

Confirmation
On Sunday 1st December 2019 (Advent Sunday) at 11.00am in Colebrooke, the Bishop celebrated a service of Confirmation with Holy Communion at which we had 14 candidates from both Colebrooke and Cooneen, presented for confirmation. Colebrooke church was completely filled for the service, following which the congregation met in the hall for refreshments, before going on to their respective functions. We wish God's blessing on our young people as they take their next steps in the life and witness of the church.

Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch
On Wednesday 4th December 2019, our senior citizens came together for a four-course traditional Christmas dinner in Colebrooke Hall, which was enjoyed by everyone present. A very big thank you to everyone who helped set up the hall and make trifles on Tuesday evening, those who served and tidied up on the day, and especially those who did the majority of the cooking. Thank you all.

GFS – Girls Friendly Society
The branch meets every Monday, at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall for girls three 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 every 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 each 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.

SNATCH (Sunday Night At the Church Hall) Youth Ministry
Aghavea & Colebrooke
All young people of secondary school age welcome.
Facebook: www.facebook.com/snatchyf
Website: snatch.colebrookeparish.org

Mothers’ Union
In November Yvonne Cunningham, a local pharmacist, gave an informative and amusing talk about “Keeping Healthy in Winter” and encouraged people to use their local pharmacist as a first port of call in illness as many resources and much expertise is available there. Yvonne also related some stories using slides of her recent trip to Paraguay where Claire Holmes is working with SAMS. The huge needs facing families in that country made us realise how blessed we are in our country and the need to support the work of mission around the world through giving and prayer. Valerie and Hazel, branch members, organised many flower arranging resources for a fun night in December where beautiful wreaths were created as well as Christmas Cracker table centre arrangements. Each person also contributed resources to produce very pleasing arrangements. A festive supper was served to conclude a happy evening.
On January 15, Revd John McClennaghan led a service of Holy Communion to open the branch meetings for 2020. On 19 February, members and friends plan to have fun playing bowls under the expert teaching of branch member Violet. Come along and enjoy fellowship and fun.

Bible Stories in Braille
Eryn Kirkpatrick was born eight years ago as the first child of Evanna and Maurice but it was discovered she was blind. Despite specialist therapy and treatment in China, Eryn did not gain any sight. Throughout her short childhood she has been greatly supported by her family who spend many hours teaching her a wide vocabulary and encouraging her socially.
Her grandmother Violet, a faithful member of Colebrooke and Cooneen Mothers’ Union, has been a consistent help to Eryn.
In autumn 2019 Eryn featured on the BBC Newsline programme, as someone who benefited from the Braille service provided by workers in Maghaberry Prison Braille Unit. A member of Colebrooke and Cooneen Mothers’ Union suggested to the Branch Leader to try and have Bible Story books printed in Braille.
‘The Nativity Story’ and ‘God’s Story For Me Bible’ were purchased in The Oasis Bookshop in Lisnaskea and sent to Darren at Maghaberry Prison Braille Unit.
Darren and his team worked tirelessly to have the books written in Braille and ready for Eryn in time for Christmas.
At the morning service in Colebrooke Parish Church on 8 December, Mrs Irene Boyd, Branch Leader was invited by The Rector, Revd John McClennaghan, to present the six volumes of books. Eryn and her sisters Kayla and Ava had lit the Advent candle first and Eryn was surprised to receive the books. She read the title ‘The Nativity Story’ and said: ‘Thank you very much for the books and I might as well go home and start reading them.’
Mothers’ Union members send sincere thanks to the staff at Maghaberry for writing the books in Braille and giving Eryn an opportunity to read the Bible for herself.
MU – fulfilling their aim of ‘Christian Care for Families’ and the themes for 2019 ‘Listen Observe Act in Step With God,’ and 2020 ‘Building Hope and Confidence.’

Photos from the senior citizens’ Christmas lunch.
New year, new opportunities

I’ve always been taught that problems are simply opportunities for improvements – which gave us a wide scale of opportunities for the church renovations over the past few months! The great news is that by the time you read these notes in the wonderful Diocesan Magazine we should be in our newly refurbished spiritual home! There will be time for plenty of thanks in later editions, but I would like to bring special focus on the work of the Select Vestry and in particular to the Building Committee who have met in the church building every week since well before Christmas! They have guided the project to a successful end, and managed to do so with a good humour, cooperation and consideration in equal measures! I would also like to thank Canon Mark Watson and the Select Vestries of Maguiresbridge and Derrybrusk and Revd John McLennaghan and the Select Vestry of Colebrooke churches for their invaluable assistance and permission for allowing us to use their premises while our church building was unavailable. We hope that we can extend the same consideration if they ever find themselves in any similar situation.

Register

Marriage
14th December 2019 – Wedding of Gemma and Michael Humphreys, Derrybrusk Parish.

Death

Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathies and prayers to the McClintock family, and to all those who have remembered the loss of loved ones and neighbours at this time of year.

Thanks, I think!!

The parishioners proved that they could still organise events and surprises behind the rector’s back by organising a birthday celebration at the very start of the year, to remind the rector that he’s getting old – or 50 at least! Thank you to the conspirators, and to all those who joined us to celebrate my “special” birthday!

Christmas Festivities

The Sunday School had a busy month throughout December – they were brilliant at the Church Nativity Service, both singing and assisting with the presentation of the familiar but amazing story of Jesus’ birth, and then exploring Carrowhoney Farm for their annual Christmas party. They were well entertained, and enjoyed a brilliant evening looking at many different and unusual breeds of animals! The Parish hosted a Christmas Cabaret Spectacular – organised by our own Malcolm McDowell, with guest stars including Brendan Quinn, Aidan Quinn, Patricia Maguire, Liam Kelly and Andrew McMurdie. The artists each sang their own styles of songs, yet they all contributed to another unforgettable evening in the Parish Hall. We would like to pass on our congratulations to Malcolm for organising the event, and to all the singers and musicians who performed on the evening! All proceeds went to the Building Fund, and we would like to thank all those who came along to support us.

Upcoming events

We will be hosting a Gospel Concert on 28th February at 8pm, when the guests will be Kenny Archer, the Valley Singers and James and Naomi Parks. There’ll be plenty of opportunity to join in with the singing, and a good night is guaranteed. Tickets will be available from late January, or you can pay £10 at the door on the evening. If you fancy coming along and need any special requirements, just contact the rector at 02889531210.

Services each Sunday

As we move back into our Church building, our normal pattern of services continue. We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday morning, Morning Prayer each second and fourth Sunday, and a Family Service on the third Sunday. Each service is at 11am, and is always followed by a time of tea, coffee and fellowship.
It was lovely to have the children from our Clontibret Church service on Sunday 5th of January and thank them for the annual United communion. Special thanks to Revd Jerry Clinton for inviting us to join in this appeal and all the boxes have been collected and are safely on their way.

There was a great response again this year to this appeal and all the boxes have been collected and are safely on their way. The donations were €300 to Camphill and €300 to St Vincent de Paul.

Thank You
We thank all the clergy and lay readers who come to us each Sunday and thank Revd Canon Ian Berry, our rural Dean who is taking care of our pastoral cover in the vacancy and the Clogher Diocesan office for arranging cover for our Parish. Congratulations
Congratulations to Sandra and James Moffett on the birth of their beautiful new granddaughter Lily, daughter to Michelle and Padraic.

We would also like to congratulate Elia Grimes who was performing in The Cheerios Panto, Cinderella at the Pantodome, The Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, Dublin over Christmas. Everyone in Christ Church is very proud of her.

Prayers
Our thoughts and prayers are with those from our Parish who have been in hospital, unwell, having tests, awaiting results or having treatment in recent weeks.

Shoe Box Appeal
There was a great response again this year to this appeal and all the boxes have been collected and are safely on their way.

United Service
Special thanks to Revd Jerry Clinton and the parishioners from First Ballybay Presbyterian Church for inviting us to join them for the annual United communion service on Sunday 5th of January and to Keith Browne who represented Christ Church.

Clontibret
It was lovely to have the children from our National School take an important role and bring us the message of Christmas with parents and grandparents. We are indebted to the teachers, Mrs Crawford, Mrs Gilmour and Miss Johnston and to organist, Miss Sharon Lancashire. As we step out into another year we thank God for his many blessings in 2019 and pray that he will continue to guide and protect us in 2020.

Congratulations
Congratulations to Danielle Dickson who received her BE from Dublin City University (DCU) and the Church of Ireland Centre (CIC). She also received a certificate in Religious Education (ME) from the (CIC).

Sympathy
Our thoughts and prayers are with Darren and Suzanne Tate and family as we express our sympathy to them on the death of Suzanne’s mother.

Muckno
Mothers’ Union
A meeting of the Mothers’ Union took place on Wednesday 13th November in Clontibret Church Hall with Mrs Lynn Cross, who spoke on drugs and alcohol abuse followed by supper. In December, the Mothers’ Union joined First Castleblayney PW for their Christmas dinner. The next meeting of the Mothers’ Union will be in the Church Hall, Castleblayney on Wednesday 12th February 2020 at 8pm. It will be a Crafty evening with Ms Geraldine Carragher. Everyone welcome.

World Day of Prayer
This will be in Castleblayney Church Hall on Friday 6th March 2020 at 8pm with speaker Ms Caroline Merrin, Carrickmacross. Congratulations
Congratulations to two of our young people, MJ Montgomery and Lynn Rusk who recently graduated and have gained employment in their chosen fields.

Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal 2019
At Castleblayney Church Hall we collected, sorted and packed 2773 shoe boxes which filled 300 large cartons, bound for Albania.

Thank you to all who have helped in any way.

“Elsewhere” the Opera
The was a very unique event on the 29th November in St Maeldoid’s Church, when we saw a new large-scale opera/music-theatre co-commissioned by Cie Miroirs Étendus, the Opéra de Rouen-Normandie and Creative Ireland. The Church had over 200 spectators to view this event. Thank you to Canon Ian Berry for his support and helpfulness to the Gallen Family in allowing this to happen in Castleblayney.

Sunday School News
A crafts morning took place on Saturday 7th December in The Church Hall to make decorations for the church Christmas festivities, the “12 Gifts of Christmas.”

Party
The Sunday School Christmas Party took place on Saturday 21st December.

New Rector
We ask God’s guidance and support as preparations are been put in place for a new rector.

Get well
This goes to Mr Frank Hearty, husband of Doreen. Frank we wish you a speedy recovery. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Also get well wishes to Mrs Ethel Coulter after recent eye surgery.

St Mary’s Hospital Carol Service
This was held on Friday 13th December at 3pm. We thank Mr Walter Pringle, Revd Colin Anderson and Father Nicole and Father Seamus Whelan for their attendance at this annual event.

St Maeldoid’s Community Carol Service
was held on Thursday 19th December at 7.30pm. Thank you once again to Mr Walter, our special soloist, Mr Richard Gibson and his sister, Winifred on the keyboard and to Charlotte for playing the organ. The proceeds of the collection went to local charity S.N.A.P.

Christmas Day service
Thank you to Revd James Stephenson for celebrating Holy Communion on Christmas Day.
Group Service
29th December saw the 5th Sunday in the month when the three churches came together for the Group service.

Sympathy
Deepest sympathy to Mrs Lynn Cross on the sad passing of her granda, Mr Billy Glasgow and also to Miss Rachel Collie on the sad passing of her fiance’s mother, Mrs Nan Casey.

Rota
A new Flower list, Tea and Reading Rota is on the notice board.

Preacher duty for February and March
- 2nd Feb - Revd James Stephenson Holy Communion
- 9th Feb Mr Roy Crowe
- 16th Feb Canon Dr W Johnston
- 26th Feb Ash Wednesday Mr K Browne

Carrickmacross Union, Magheracloone and Ardragh
Rector: The Revd Colin McConaghie

The Rectory, Drumconratth Road, Carrickmacross, Co.Monaghan.
T: 042 9673628
E: carrickmacross@clogher.anglican.org

Services
Sunday 2nd February
Morning Prayer St Finbarr’s 10.30am
Morning Prayer Magheracloone 12noon

Wednesday 5th February
Holy Communion St Finbarr’s 10.30 am
Holy Communion Magheracloone 12noon
Morning Prayer Ardragh 1.15pm

Wednesday 12th February
Ash Wednesday Service St Finbarr’s 8.00 pm

Sunday 16th February
Holy Communion St Finbarr’s 9.00am
Arise and Shine St Finbarr’s 10.30am
Service of the Word Magheracloone 12noon

Wednesday 19th February
Holy Communion St Finbarr’s 10.30 am

Sunday 23rd February
Holy Communion St Finbarr’s 10.30am
Holy Communion Magheracloone 12noon

Holy Communion Ardragh 11.15pm

Wednesday 26th February
Ash Wednesday Service St Finbarr’s 8.00 pm

20/20 Vision
In December Revd Colin laid out the Group of Parishes 20/20 vision which will focus on the three key areas of community involvement, giving and growing in faith. As we seek to be more involved in the local community and to be visually more open plans are well underway to have St Finbarr’s open during the day for people to drop in for prayer, a time of quietness or simply to have a look around.

Our monthly collection and working alongside the Carrickmacross Food Bank will mean we are helping those most in need within our community. We plan to get involved in community events throughout the year starting with entering a float into the St Patrick’s Day Parade in March on the theme of “All Things Bright and Beautiful.”

Youth Group
Our Youth Group enjoyed a great night of fun and games at our Christmas Special evening in the Jackson Hall in December. The games ranged from races wearing Christmas onesies to gargling Christmas Carols.

In January we had an evening of indoor bowls in the Jackson Hall which was great fun and created some great competition. Thanks to the members of the parish bowling team for helping to facilitate this and giving us a few tips!

Our February Youth Group meets in the Parish Room on Wednesday 20th February at 7.00pm and is open to all young people aged 11 plus. And new members are always welcome

Christmas Donation
A massive thank you to everyone who donated gifts for our chosen charity for Christmas 2019, the Carrickmacross Lions Club “Hat’s for Homeless” Appeal. During our three Carol Services in December, parishioners and visitors donated gifts of hats and gloves that were passed on to the Lion’s Club as part of their annual collection. As always everyone was extremely generous with many bags full of hats, gloves and scarves donated.

Carrickmacross Food Bank
A Foodbank has been set up in Carrickmacross by two wonderful hard-working ladies, Pauline and Caroline to give support to families who are struggling in the area to meet the cost of everyday living. We are delighted to be supporting this much needed work and were delighted to collect €700 for the project at our Ecumenical Carol Service. On the third Sunday of each month we will be collecting non-perishable food items to donate to the Food Bank.

Sunday School
Sunday School meets in St Finbarr’s on the first, second and fourth Sunday of each month during school term times and is open to all children of national school age up until Confirmation.

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A Foodbank has been set up in Carrickmacross by two wonderful hard-working ladies, Pauline and Caroline to give support to families who are struggling in the area to meet the cost of everyday living. We are delighted to be supporting this much needed work and were delighted to collect €700 for the project at our Ecumenical Carol Service. On the third Sunday of each month we will be collecting non-perishable food items to donate to the Food Bank.

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The Sunday School put on a wonderful Nativity for us in December with a little help from some of our Youth Group who were brilliant narrators. The children then all had a super time at our families Christmas party which was rounded off by a visit from Santa himself.

**Bowling Club**
The Bowls Club have begun competing for the in-house Merrin Cup Trophy and matches will be played out over the next few weeks. The Club also have two outstanding matches at home to Ballyalbany on 19th February and away to Bailieborough on 26th February. The Bowls Club meets on Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm in the Jackson Hall and the club are always keen to welcome new players.

**Prayer Meetings**
Our Parish prayer meetings continue on the first Monday of each month at 8pm in the Rectory. Prayer has to be the cornerstone of our Group of Parishes so we would encourage people to come along and join us in praying for our church, our community, the wider world, the sick and ourselves.

**Ash Wednesday Service**
We meet together in St Finbarr’s on Wednesday 26th February at 8.00pm for an evening at the Carrickmacross Lace Gallery. Carrickmacross Lace has a long history in the town having been first introduced by the wife of a Church of Ireland Rector. This promises to be an enjoyable and informative evening. Further details will be available from Caroline Merrin.

**Men’s Group**
Our Men’s Group held an evening in January on Mental Health entitled: “Why Don’t We Talk About It.” The guest speaker was Conor McCafferty MSc., Reg. MBACP (Accred. Who is Chair of the Suicide Strategy Implementation Body (SSIB) and Co-Director, Zest: Healing the Hurt Ltd. Conor proved to be a very engaging speaker and this was a very informative and helpful evening. On Thursday 27th February the Men are having a meal out and Freddie will contact everyone with details closer to the time.

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**Cleenish & Mullaghdun**

**Rector:**
The Revd Canon Geoffrey Bridle

**Cleenish Rectory, Bellanaleck, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, BT92 2BA**

T: 028 66 348259  
E: cleenish@clogher.anglican.org  
W: www.cleenishparish.weebly.com

**Church Services**

**Sunday 9th February**
10:00 a.m. M.P. Mullaghdun  
11:30 a.m. M.P. Cleenish

**Wednesday 12th February**
10:00 a.m. Monthly Healing Service, Mullaghdun Parochial Hall

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Sunday 16th February
10:00 a.m. M.P. Mullaghdun  
11:30 a.m. M.P. Cleenish

Sunday 23rd February
10:00 a.m. M.P. Mullaghdun  
11:30 a.m. M.P. Cleenish

Wednesday 26th February
10:00 a.m. Monthly Healing Service, Mullaghdun Parochial Hall  
08:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service, Cleenish

Sunday 1st March
10:00 a.m. H.C. Mullaghdun  
11:30 a.m. H.C. Cleenish

Please note:- Services may change from time to time, updates in Church Porch.

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**Dates for your Diary**

- Friday 14th February, Cleenish Annual Supper Dance
- Wednesday 26th February, Ash Wednesday
- Thursday 12th March, Mullaghdun Flute Band Concert, Gransha Hall
- Friday 10th April, Good Friday  
- Sunday 12th April, Easter Sunday

**Monthly Healing Service**
The next monthly Healing Services will be held on Wednesday 12th February and Ash Wednesday. They combine the usual shortened form of Holy Communion with the opportunity for prayer for the sick and bereaved, followed by a cup of tea and time for a chat. When this small group of parishioners meet for another year, it is an opportunity to reflect on the long life of their most loyal supporter, Mae Kells, who passed away at the end of September. Mae always made sure the room was prepared, and tea with delicious eats were provided. This small group is now pleased that Caroline Little has taken on this task.

**Mission Focused Services**
On Sunday morning 24th November, services were held in both churches, when Ronnie and Maggie Briggs who are attached to CMS Ireland, informed the congregations about living and working in Kenya. They first went to Kenya after they were married in 1980, and lived in 12 different homes with their three children until recently returning home. One of their main drawbacks was the lack of water, as the rains only came twice yearly, during spring and autumn. Both services were conducted by the Rector,
Hilary Benson read the lesson in Mullaghdun and Margaret Crawford read the lesson in Cleenish.

### Nine Lessons and Carols

**Mullaghdun** - The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held in Mullaghdun on Sunday evening, 8th December. The Lessons were read by Hilary Benson, Caroline Little, Ivy Humphreys, Phyllis Lucy, Ruth Coalter, Cathy Gibson, Elizabeth Hazlett, George Carson and the Rector, Canon Geoff Bridle. The Choir with Elizabeth Hazlett at the organ led the singing of favourite Christmas hymns and sang “Beautiful Star” and “When God from Heav’n to Earth Came Down” The Church was tastefully decorated with floral and festive arrangements.

**Cleenish** - The service took place in Cleenish on Sunday evening 15th December. The Choir entered the church singing the carol ‘Once in Royal David’s City’. They then sang three anthems ‘Carols Sing’ ‘The Stars Danced’ and ‘There is singing in the Desert’. Lessons were read by George Thornton; Janet Dowson; Ethel Nixon; Rowena Sheridan; Lettie Coulter; Angela Graham; Leslie Nixon; Rosemary Forde and the Rector. Joan trained the choir and played the organ.

### Illness

Mullaghdun Vestry Members send their good wishes to Thomas Carson, who has recently returned home after spending a period in Hospital. He is now in reasonably good health but needs to return for further treatment. His wife Heather is Rector’s Churchwarden. A number of members from both Parishes have been unwell during the Christmas period. Please remember those known to you in your prayers and pray that they be returned to their former good health.

### Family Services

Both Family Services took place on Sunday morning 15th December.

#### Mullaghdun Creche

The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Cancer Connect NI Winter Wonderland event in Enniskillen on Sunday 14th December. The well-organised event which included interesting activities and treats, a train ride and a visit to Santa held the attention of the children.

In Cleenish the Service was conducted by Rowena, whose address to the children give a practical example of three shoe boxes each wrapped with Christmas paper identical on the outside, as to how they could differ on the inside.

After the Sunday School sang ‘Now We’ve Christmas’, Sara read the Sunday School poem. The Bible Reading was read by Grace and Kara Lilly and the Occasional Prayers were read by Ava and Luke. The organ and keyboard were played by Joan.

### Bereavement

Winifred Kathleen Macaulay died peacefully at the South West Acute Hospital on Wednesday 11th December, having been admitted to Hospital on the previous day. Winnie lived for many years at Heathdale View, Letterbreen, before moving with her son and daughter to their newly constructed residence at Mullycovet about 15 years ago. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Following a Service of Thanksgiving in Mullaghdun Parish Church on Friday 13th December, burial was in the adjoining graveyard. We extend sympathy to Winnie’s children, Margaret, Harriet and Jim; to her son-in-law, Geoffrey and to her grand-children, great-grandchildren and the wider family circle.

### Cleenish & Mullaghdun Mothers’ Union

Members celebrated the start of the Mothers’ Union theme for 2020 “Building Hope and Confidence” on Friday 21st January in Cleenish Parish Church, with a Holy Communion Service officiated by Canon Geoffrey Bridle. Despite an increase in indoor membership throughout the year and illness the Service was well attended. Members discussed the forthcoming Diocesan events and the Branch programme for the present year over a welcome cup of tea on a cold winter’s evening.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th February at 8pm in Mullaghdun Parish Church.
Vestry.

Singing Digger Man. Tickets £15 each, can

Headquarters, Enniskillen, dancing to the

on Friday 14th February in the Unionist

The Annual Supper Dance will take place

excess of £3800.

The total raised at the above Auction, was in

6:30pm to 7:45pm, in Cleenish Parish Hall.

girls aged 7 to 11 years will be made most

about the forthcoming programme. New

of writing, no decision had been made

on Wednesday 22nd January. At time

Brownies recommenced for the new term

Cleenish Brownies

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about the forthcoming programme. New

girls aged 7 to 11 years will be made most

welcome on Wednesday evenings each week.

We hope mums/dads grandmas/granddads

continue to enjoy the opportunity to have

a chat over a cup of tea. For further details,

telephone Rosita Bridle 02866 348259.

Cleenish Parish Auction

The total raised at the above Auction, was in

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Cleenish Parish Supper Dance

The Annual Supper Dance will take place

on Friday 14th February in the Unionist

Headquarters, Enniskillen, dancing to the

Singing Digger Man. Tickets £15 each, can

be obtained from any member of the Select

Vestry.

Magazine Subscriptions for

Year 2020

Just a reminder, the £15 marked on the

outside of your magazine covers the 10

monthly copies for the incoming year 2020.

Cleenish Centre

At the beginning of a New Year, staff and

patrons remember with sadness the sudden

and unexpected death of Ethel, who passed

away at the beginning of 2019.

During the Carol Service held on Sunday

afternoon, 1st December, musical items were

sung by Ella and Katie, who also played the

violin. Their mother Grace sang individual

items and provided the music for the carol

singing. The management at the Centre are

confident of having another successful year

during 2020. To hire the Centre, contact

by email: enquiries@cleenishcentre.com,

or telephone 02866 349647. You may also

view the Cleenish Centre website

Bellanaleck Community Group

At the monthly meeting of the Community

Group held on Wednesday 27th November,

the future Blueway Scheme which

hopefully will commence in the New Year

was discussed. The principal project will

be to widen and improve the Slipway at

Bellanaleck Quay. Other smaller items in the

pipeline are: (a) provide a pedestrian shelter

along the Loughshore Path; (b) possible

footpath and road lighting to be continued to

the end of Waterhen Lane; (c) consolidation

of various signs along Bellanaleck Quay into

a single sign.

Rivers Agency have now confirmed they will

be removing the fishing stands along Laragh

Lough due to the structures now becoming

unsafe. However the Car Park and its

related associated fencing will remain.

DfI, have given a commitment that the

main road, A509 which passes through the

Village, will be resurfaced early this year.

The annual Childrens’ Party to be held on

Saturday 7th December was then discussed

In detail and agreed it would take the form

as previous years. On the day itself the

Party was again very successful. The large

number of helpers turned up as expected to

cater for 60 children and their parents, and

many thanks to all for their commitment.

A special thanks to Santa Claus and F.O.D.C.,

for supplying the Santa Train.

Thanks again to Ossie and June who lit up

the permanent tree in their garden, which

was a glowing feature throughout the

Christmas period.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 26th

February. Enquiries to Group Secretary

Owen Wilson, e-mail owenwilson@btinternet.

Christian Burial

Mullaghduin Parish Church

Friday 13th December 2019 - Winifred

Kathleen (Winnie) Macauley, 132 Gardrum

Road, Mullycovet, Belcoo aged 95 years.

A Celebration of St. Macartan in

Clogher Cathedral

A celebration of St. Macartan will take place

in Clogher Cathedral on Sunday, 22nd

March and Tuesday, 24th March.

On the site of the current Diocesan

Cathedral in Clogher there has been a

place of worship dating back to the 5th

Century when Macartan, who was St.

Patrick’s strong man, was appointed by

St. Patrick as the first Bishop of Clogher

Diocese.

On Sunday 22nd March at 3pm, the

‘Friends of Clogher Cathedral’ will hold

their annual service of thanksgiving and

fellowship in the Cathedral ~ everyone is

very welcome when the guest preacher

will be Revd. Dr. Maurice Elliott, Director of

the Church of Ireland Theological College.

More detail will follow. Then on Tuesday

24th March at 8pm (St. Macartan’s Day)

Bishop McDowell will give a lecture in our

historic Cathedral on the Disestablishment

of the Church of Ireland. Everyone is very

welcome.

Gospel concert

On Friday 20th March at 8pm, St. Mark’s

Newtownsaville are holding a Gospel

Concert in the church with guest artists Rev.

Jean Mackkerel and friends. Supper will

be provided and everyone very welcome.
Services

2 February
Clones 10.00am: Morning Prayer (followed by refreshments)
Newbliss (Hall) 11.30am: Morning Prayer
NB. Services on 2 February will be led by Mr. Keith Browne since the Rector will be away.

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

16 February
Clones 10.00am: Morning Prayer (followed by refreshments)
Newbliss (Hall) 11.30am: Morning Prayer

23 February
Currin 10.00am: Morning Prayer
Killeevan 11.30am: Morning Prayer

1 March
Clones 10.00am: Holy Communion (followed by refreshments)
Newbliss (Hall) 11.30am: Holy Communion

Condolences
Please pray for the family and friends of Eileen Crowe, who died on 17 December 2019.

Joint Sunday School Fun and Games
Children and their parents from across our Group came together on 20 December for a fabulous evening of Christmas fun and games. Our thanks go to Walter Pringle for agreeing to compère the evening and organise the sound system, as well as to Gladys Keating and all the many others who helped to make the party such a swinging success.

Clones St. Tighernach’s Fundraising – Thank You
Thank you to all who organised and supported St. Tighernach’s Christmas Fayre on 14 December. It was hugely enjoyable and raised €5,434 for church funds. Our thanks also go to Christine Rusk and to those who supported her clothes collection (which raised £75) as well as to Adam and Richard Rusk for their donation of £100 from the sale of Christmas trees.

Mothers’ Union
Our January meeting saw Marina Ferguson demonstrating a range of tropical skin care products and makeup. Our members had a great time and were able to order a variety of items, with all profits going to support the building of a missionary school in Vietnam. Our next meeting is at 8.00pm on 20 February in Killeevan, when Beulah McManus of the Child Evangelism Fellowship will give a talk on the work of the CEF. All are warmly welcome.

Community News

Low-Cost Counselling / Psychotherapy Service
A low-cost counselling / psychotherapy service for adults and young people from 13-18 years of age is now available at Clones Family Resource Centre. This confidential service is only a telephone call away. All our counsellors are experienced and fully accredited by IACP or BACP. Prompt appointments are offered. For further information, or to make an appointment, call Angela on 047 52919. Supported by Tusla, Child and Family Agency

Panic Buttons for Older People
If you are aged over 66 and are interested in applying for a Panic Button under the SAS Pobal scheme, please contact Anne Davy, Clones Family Resource Centre on 047 52919 for more information or to make your application. Areas covered include Clones, Smithborough, Newbliss, Drum, and Scotshouse. The Panic Buttons can be used with either landlines or mobiles.

Christian Baptism
15th December 2019 - Emmeline Francis Woods, daughter of Thomas and Julia, Drumlish Road, Lack.

Christian Burial
29th December 2019 - Robert George Weir, Tirmacspird Road, Lack.
The Shoebox Appeal.
A gift from the Bible Fellowship was presented to the Watson family for a Christmas treat. The parish continues to support them through its annual commitment.

Shoebox Appeal
The parish as in previous years supported the shoe box appeal by gathering appropriate items for the boxes together with financial donations towards the costs of postage etc. A shopping trolley, kindly on loan from ASDA, was used to collect the items for onward delivery to Irene who generously co-ordinates this appeal each year.

Hospice NI
It was a delight to welcome David from the Northern Ireland Hospice, who spoke on the work of the hospice, and thanked the parish for its ongoing support to its work locally. A cheque had been previously handed over to Janet representing the local hospice team. Many within the parish took collection boxes as part of the jingle fundraiser during Advent. We extend our thanks to all who support this valuable service to our community and beyond.

Kesh Rural Deanery
Kesh Rural Deanery held a youth event in conjunction with Colaghty Youth group with Hannah Arnold of CARE, which was well attended with groups from other churches present. A time of worship and prayers preceded the talk by Hannah. The event was informative with respect to life, mirroring the words of the Psalmist, “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;” Ps. 139: 14. The inter-active talk and input from the children and leaders complimented the insights and learning. Refreshments were served at the close, and our thanks to all who organised the event.

Young@Heart
The group met for their monthly meeting in December with Kennedy Bacon, who give an insight into his home processing and dry curing of the pork products he sells as a contributor of the local farmers markets. Members were able to try some of the pork and the difference in the home cured pork. Members enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch in the Tullana.

Women’s Fellowship
The group met for their pre-Christmas meeting with local speaker, Cheryl Simpson who displayed her skills in baking, encouraging members with new ideas for Christmas, before sharing a thought from God’s word. A wonderful supper was enjoyed by all afterwards, and our thanks to the committee for providing and serving the delightful food.

Christmas
The many and varied Christmas events are now over, as we move through into this New Year. We had a blessed time, from Carol singing, to the each of the services and parties held with one another. Among those are the following:-

CE/Sunday School/Youth Group
The joint CE/Sunday school party was held with games, some of which were linked to making snowmen. The rector gave a talk on a particular quote of Olaf, reminding them of God’s love for us in giving us His Son. Festive treats were served and a gift was given to each child, a small token, ever mindful that in our plenty, others may not. We thank the leaders, helpers and others who organised, assisted and served the food. The youth group held their party night following the juniors with games, an address and food. Thanks to all who lead and share each night in equipping our young people.

Sunday School Christmas Sketch
The children performed their sketch this year on faith, using a ‘faith-ometer’ as a means of teaching us of how faith in Christ
was in some respects waning. They sought to encourage everyone by listening again to God’s message of salvation through the birth of His Son using their own words. Appropriate hymns and songs were intermingled and led by the children and young people. The Sunday School leaders provided and served refreshments after the service and our thanks to all for the work they do with all our youth.

**Carol Service**
The confirmation group this year read the lessons and offered prayers at the Christmas Carol service. A packed church of parishioners, family friends and neighbours, enjoyed a wonderful evening of praise and worship, which was followed by mince pies and shortbread in the hall, provided by Muriel and Heather. We extend thanks to everyone, the organist, musicians, choir, readers, IT, florist, to all who help in any way with the service or in the hall.

**New Year’s Eve**
The annual New Year’s Eve worship and social took place in the parish hall where almost 70 people of all ages enjoyed a night of food, fellowship and fun. The finger buffet was provided by the Select Vestry and enjoyed by all, with worship led by ‘Committed’ and the rector as the speaker. The social followed with Jason calling the games and teaching and encouraging participation in each. The pipers played in ‘2020’ with the traditional singing of ‘Auld Lang Syne’. Many thanks to everyone and a blessed New Year to all.

Please check weekly announcements for any changes or updates to the various groups/activities that meet regularly.
**Derryvullen North and Castle Archdale**

The Rectory, Enniskillen Road, Irvinestown
BT94 1BD
T: 028 68621890
E: irvinestown@clogher.anglican.org

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**Services**

- **Sunday 9th February**
  - Derryvullen North: 10.30am Family Service with Dedication of Parish Centre Clock
  - Castle Archdale: 11.45am Family Service
  - Derryvullen North: 3.00pm BB 40th Anniversary Service

- **Sunday 16th February**
  - Castle Archdale: 10.15am Morning Prayer
  - Derryvullen North: 11.30am Morning Prayer

- **Wednesday 19th February**
  - Derryvullen North: 11.00am Shoppers’ Service (Holy Communion) with refreshments

- **Sunday 23rd February**
  - Castle Archdale: 10.15am Morning Prayer
  - Derryvullen North: 11.30am Morning Prayer

- **Wednesday 26th February**
  - Derryvullen North: 7.30pm Ash Wednesday Liturgy

- **Sunday 1st March (Lent 1)**
  - Castle Archdale: 10.15am Holy Communion 1
  - Derryvullen North: 11.30am Holy Communion 1

**Dates for the diary**

- Tuesdays, Bowling Club
- Mondays and Thursdays, Boys Brigade
- Choir (DVN) as announced in the weekly bulletin
- 11th Feb 2.30pm, Tuesday Club
- 19th Feb 11.00am, Shoppers’ Service and a cuppa in DVN Parish Centre
- 19th Feb 8.30pm, Women’s Group
- 26th Feb (after the Ash Wednesday Service), Mothers’ Union

**Christmas reflections**

A lot happened in our parishes and wider community over Advent and Christmas as we marked the preparation for the Festival and then Christmas itself.

- **This all started with the Christmas Fair in Derryvullen North Hall on Saturday 30th November which formed part of the switching-on of the Christmas lights in Irvinestown. Santa of course arrived for the lights’ ceremony in the main street and then made his way by sleigh around the town to the parish hall. A wonderful crowd attended and over £3,100 was raised and thanks to all who arranged and supported this from the parish and across the whole community. Irvinestown Primary School also had a stall at the fair selling their new Recipe Book, a project of the children.**

- **The Christmas Lights were turned on around the Green on Friday 6th December and of course Santa also made time to appear here too. The Community Choir led carol singing and mince pies and mulled wine were enjoyed.**

- **The Bowling Club concluded their final evening before Christmas with a supper in the hall committee room which was enjoyed by all – thank you to those who provided and served this.**

- **We say “thank you” to everyone who helped decorate our Churches for Christmas. A lot of work went into it all and added so much to the time of celebration.**

- **On Sunday 15th December the children contributed a nativity drama in each Church and they, along with the adults, gave items for the local foodbank based in the ARC Centre. A letter of thanks was later read out in the churches from the Centre.**

- **On Sunday 22nd December there was the annual services of lessons and carols. In Castle Archdale there were special seasonal musical items by the visiting brass ensemble. In Derryvullen North the newly formed parish music group contributed music to several carols and pipers led the opening of the service, the choir sang two anthems and there was also a solo. Thank you all involved in these occasions.**

**Christmas Memories Service**

On 8th December at 7.00pm there was a special Christmas Memories Service in St Tighernach’s Church, Derryvullen North. This was led by the Rector on behalf of Lisnarick District No 9 and WLOL 222 and assisted by Dr Margaret Knox. Readers in the Service were Brother J Graham and Sister A Moffat along with thanks given by Brother M Byers. The music was led by organist, Mrs Florence Barrett and the members of the Choir. This Service was an opportunity to gather in prayer and worship to remember those whom we love, those who have passed away and are now in the nearer presence of God. We miss them.

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**The Mothers’ Union meeting about Leprosy Mission.**

**The Christmas Fair.**
and the loss still hurts but in this Service we honoured their memory, remembered them before God and gave thanks for all that was good and true in their lives. We also asked God's blessing on us in our loss that we may be strengthened to meet the days to come. We also sought to do good in their names by supporting the work of the Drew Nelson Legacy Project. Individuals and families decorated baubles in personalised ways to reflect those being remembered. Following the service there was a time to enjoy chat and friendship over refreshments in the parish hall.

Mission Sunday
Along with the rest of the diocese this special theme was observed on Christ the King Sunday, marking the end of the liturgical year. In Castle Archdale, Dr Margaret gave a presentation about the mission work supported by the joint parishes’ Mothers’ Union Branch and in Derryvullen North, Mr Henry Miskimmin gave a presentation about a mission project to Kenya, a trip that the congregation in Irvinestown helped support.

Women’s Group
The group held a very enjoyable Christmas Meal in the Mayfly, Kesh on 4th December. Our thanks are due to Yvonne Campbell and Wendy Clarke and the Committee for organising such a successful evening. At the time of writing the members are planning to hold a meeting on 15th January to which all can bring to share, some of their favourite food they have made.

Faith and Friendship
The meeting of the group took place on Tuesday 14th January in Mahon’s Hotel when the passage for study was John 5:2-9 and the theme was “The mercy giver” in which there was reflection on healing and restoration. The man in the passage was the one who needed the mercy and the healing. Had he lost hope or perhaps he had been so long with his condition that he could envisage nothing beyond it — but then Jesus changed things! This meeting is supported by the Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches and meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 8.00pm. Tea and coffee are always included and the chat and friendship is good.

Shoppers’ Service
The December Service was held in Derryvullen North Parish Centre on 18th December when 24 attended and enjoyed refreshments and chat afterwards. The music for the carols was very kindly provided by Mr Richard McGonigle on the guitar. At the time of writing the next such service is planned for Wednesday 15th January.

Mothers’ Union
• 17 members attended the meeting on Wednesday 27th November and the speaker was Rebecca Parnell from the Leprosy. Rebecca introduced the talk with the account of the healing of the man with leprosy in Matthew 8:1-4 and then she went on to give a very interesting and informative talk on the present situation concerning leprosy. There are over 2000,000 people diagnosed with leprosy each year. For best results treatment should be started early but because of the stigma attached to the disease, people are often slow to come forward. She urged us all to pray for the work.
• Five members attended the Prayer Vigil in Garvary Parish Church on Gender Violence and some members also attended the Carol Service in Pettigo Presbyterian Church on 3rd December.

Tuesday Club
The members of the group met on 10th December for the Christmas Communion Service led by the Rector and assisted by Mrs Eileen Cutler (Diocesan Pastoral Assistant) and by Dr Margaret at the organ. This was followed by a welcome cup of tea and mince pies. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th February and the speaker will be Mr Jim McClure, Pharmacist.

Boys’ Brigade
The Juniors and Anchor Boys Sections enjoyed a Christmas visit from Mary’s Ark, a mobile micro zoo which brought the animals to the BB for the evening — including a wide range of small animals available from reptiles, creepy crawlies, exotics and cute and cuddly. At present the Company is planning a special Sunday afternoon event, encompassing a Service and Tea, on 9th February at 3.00pm to mark the 40th anniversary of the BB in the town. All “Old Boys” are welcome.
Thank Kathleen and her sons William and Keith for this beautiful gift given in memory of a loving husband, father and grandfather.

**Advent And Christmas Services**

During the Advent Season the young people from both Derryvullen South Parish and Garvary Parish took part in lighting a Candle on the Advent Wreath and saying a prayer. Thanks to Jean Hunter for making the beautiful Advent Wreath. Many thanks to Rosemary Watts, the organist in Derryvullen South and the choir for their Advent hymn and prayer at the beginning of the service. Christmas Eve services in both churches were well attended and after the service everyone enjoyed fellowship and festive treats made and served by the ladies of the parishes. Both parish churches were beautifully decorated for the festive season and thanks to all who gave of their time and talents and gifts of flowers. Thanks to the Graham family from Derryvullen South Parish and the Phair family from Garvary Parish for supplying the Christmas Trees. The young people from both Sunday schools presented their nativity story in drama and song. 

Our thanks to Lewis Nixon who has been helping out with organ duties in Derryvullen South Parish Church over the Advent and Christmas period. Thanks also to Gillian Forde and the Choir in Garvary Parish Church for leading the worship over the Advent and Christmas period.

**Mothers’ Union**

Monday 17th February, at 8.00 pm in Derryvullen Parish Church Hall. The theme “Uganda Experience”. Everyone welcome. Diocesan Mothers’ Union Breakfast will be held in Fivemiletown Parish Hall on Saturday 22nd February at 9.00 am.

**Baptismal Register**

Maisy Coral Joan Williamson was baptised on Sunday 24th November in Holy Trinity Parish Church. We wish Maisy and her parents Lisa and Gareth God’s Richest Blessing.

William Jason Graham was baptised on Sunday 12th January in Derryvullen South Parish Church. We wish William and his parents Rachel and Jason God’s richest blessing.

Arthur Henry Beacom was baptised on Sunday 12th January in Garvary Parish Church. We wish Arthur and his parents Laura and Gary God’s Richest Blessing.

**Burial Register**

Sincere Sympathy to the family and friends of Henry Alexander Miller. We offer prayerful support to the wider family circle as they mourn the death of Harry. The funeral service took place in Derryvullen South Parish Church on the 24th December, 2019

**Sympathy**

We offer our sincere sympathy to Patrick and Jacqueline Lynch on the death of Jacqueline’s sister.

**Dates For Your Diary**

The Bowls Tournament will be held in Garvary Parish Church hall from Monday 24th February – Friday 28th February. Thanks to Hilda Lucy for organising the tournament.

**Auction**

Garvary Parish Church are holding an auction on Saturday 7th March at 1.30 pm in Garvary Parish Hall. Items to be auctioned include firewood, home bakes and general household items.

**Fashion Show**

On Thursday 12th March at 7.30 pm, a Fashion Show will be held in Garvary Parish Church Hall with fashions by KLASS. Tickets £10 including refreshments.

**World Prayer Day**

This will be held on 6th March at 8.00 pm in Lisbellaw Parish Church.

**Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers those in our parishes who are ill at home, those receiving treatment and those in hospital.
Devenish & Boho

Services for February
Sunday 2nd
10.00 am Holy Communion, Boho Parish Church
11.30 am Holy Communion, Devenish Parish Church
7.30 pm Evening Service, Devenish Parish Church

Sunday 9th
10.00 am Morning Prayer, Boho Parish Church
11.30 am Morning Service, Devenish Parish Church
7.30 pm Evening Service, Devenish Parish Church.

Sunday 16th
10.00 am Morning Prayer, Boho Parish Church
11.30 am Holy Communion, Devenish Parish Church
7.30 pm Evening Service, Devenish Parish Church

Sunday 23rd
10.00 am Family Service, Boho Parish Church
11.30 am Holy Communion, Devenish Parish Church
7.30 pm Evening Service, Devenish Parish Church

Burial
Sunday 8th December 2019 Georgina “Caroline” Britton, 10 Caldrum Road, Derrygonnelly.
The funeral service conducted by the Revd Sampson Ajuka was held in Boho Parish Church. Tributes were paid during the service by Caroline’s niece, Diane Simpson and Danny Redmond, on behalf of Boho Parish. Burial was in the adjoining graveyard. Caroline played a major part in the life of Boho Parish Church, being a member of the Choir and a member of the Select Vestry for over 50 years, the majority of which she served as Secretary to the Select Vestry. We offer our deepest sympathy to Caroline’s nephews and nieces and the wider family circle.

Holy Baptism
Sunday 8th December 2019 in Boho Parish Church, Katie McDowell, daughter of Rodney and Carolyn McDowell. We offer our good wishes and prayers to Katie and her parents.

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Services
Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday 26th February 2020 and there will be a service in Devenish Parish Church at 8.00 pm. During Lent, midweek services will alternate between Devenish and Boho churches.

Christmas Services
Boho Carol Service was held on the evening of Sunday 15th December. The readers were Enid Redmond, Marian Saunderson, Danny Redmond, Innes Redmond, Trevor Irwin, Trevor Smith, Albert Cluff, Rejoice, Chigoziri and Chiemela Ajuka, Noah and Albie Cluff and Revd Sampson Ajuka. The organist was Kathleen Irwin. After the service a lovely supper was served to the congregation.

Devenish Sunday School Christmas Service
We wish to thank Devenish Parish Sunday School children and their leaders for their Christmas Service. They performed the drama “Ready Steady Christmas.” and sang two carols, “Little Donkey” and “Away in a Manger.” It was good to see all 25 children participating and we thank them for their excellent performance.

Devenish Carol Service
This was held on the evening of Sunday 22nd December. The choir sang a number of carols including “See him lying on a bed of straw,” “The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy” and “O Holy Night.” Alan Gault sang the first Verse of “Silent Night” in German. The readers were Norma Ferguson, Kenny Ferguson, Pearl Bell, Kay McKewen, Raymond Bell, Dorothea Kells, David Scott, Dorothy Scott, and Joan Cathcart. Special thanks to the choir and organist Mrs. Gill Spence for their musical contributions. After the service the congregation enjoyed tea and fellowship in the Reade Hall.

Christmas Services
Holy Communion Services were held on Christmas Eve in Devenish and on Christmas Day in both Devenish and Boho.

Sunday School Party
The Sunday School children had a very enjoyable party on Monday 18th December. Thanks to the Sunday school teachers who organised it and to Santa Claus, who appeared as usual.

Devenish and Boho Mothers’ Union
Our Visitors’ Night was held on Tuesday 19th November. Georgina Whittaker, our Branch Leader, welcomed everyone and said that she was delighted to see so many, 64 in total, who had come along to see Laura Gallagher from Yummy Mummy Cakes, Springfield demonstrate the art of cake decorating with a Christmas theme. Laura said that all her cakes and cupcakes were freshly made to order and were personalised and designed for any special occasion. She then iced a Christmas cake and with the help of two of our visitors decorated a number of cupcakes. Everyone agreed that Laura was a very talented lady. A vote of thanks was proposed by Carole Whittaker.

On Tuesday 26th November, six of our members attended the Prayer Vigil in Garvary Parish Church when we heard the Winter Fayre in progress in the Reade Hall.
Mervyn Smyth, from the group Ardstraw Against Trafficking, highlight what is happening in this area in relation to violence against women. A large number of items was donated to Women's Aid on the night. The MU Christmas party was held on Tuesday 10th December. At the beginning of the evening Georgina Whittaker welcomed Margaret Barton and assisted by Joan Cathcart she enrolled Margaret to membership of the Mothers’ Union. Afterwards everyone enjoyed some festive food and fellowship and the evening concluded with the singing of a number of Carols. Georgina then wished everyone a happy Christmas and safe journey home.

On Wednesday 11th December a number of our members and parishioners went Carol singing to the Graan and Tilery nursing homes and to the homes of two of our members.

Our annual dinner will be held on Tuesday 18th February at 7.30 pm in the Killyhevlin Hotel. If you would like to attend please put your name on the sheet in Devenish Parish Church or contact Georgina and please feel free to bring along a friend.

**Flower Rota**
The Select Vestry wish to thank everyone who put their name on the Flower Rota for providing flowers in the church.

**Table Quiz**
Devenish Parish will be holding a Table Quiz in the Reade Hall on Saturday 8th February at 7.30pm. Everybody is welcome.

**Winter Fayre**
Devenish Parish held a very successful Winter Fayre on Friday 29th November. There were over 25 stall holders and the hall was full with people attending from near and far. We wish to thank everyone who attended all the stall holders and the organising committee.

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**Donacavey and Barr**

Rector:
The Revd John Woods

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**Services for the month of February in Donacavey and Barr**

**Sunday, 2nd February: The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**
Barr: 10.00am Holy Communion followed by Sunday school.
Donacavey: 11:30am Holy Communion & Sunday School.

**Sunday, 9th February: The Third Sunday before Lent**
Barr: 10.00am Morning Prayer followed by Sunday school.
Donacavey: 11:30am Morning Prayer & Sunday School.

**Sunday, 16th February: The Second Sunday before Lent**
Barr: 10.00am Morning Prayer followed by Sunday school.
Donacavey: 11:30am Morning Prayer & Sunday School.

**Sunday, 23rd February: The Sunday before Lent**
Barr: 10.00am Service of the Word.
Donacavey: 11:30am Service of the Word.
Ash Wednesday service, including Holy Communion, on 26th February at 8pm in Donacavey church.

Sunday, 1st March: The First Sunday in Lent
Barr: 10.00am Holy Communion followed by Sunday school.
Donacavey: 11.30am Holy Communion & Sunday School.

Sunday, 8th March: The Second Sunday in Lent
Barr: 10.00am Morning Prayer followed by Sunday school.
Donacavey: 11.30am Morning Prayer & Sunday School.

Sunday, 15th March: The Third Sunday in Lent
Barr: 10.00am Morning Prayer followed by Sunday school.
Donacavey: 11.30am Morning Prayer & Sunday School.

Sunday, 22nd March: The Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday).
Barr: 10.00am Service of the Word.
Donacavey: 11.30am Service of the Word.

Sunday, 29th March: The Fifth Sunday in Lent.
Barr: 10.00am Service of the Word.
Donacavey: 11.30am Service of the Word.

St Eugene’s Band
St Eugene's Band came along to Donacavey on 15th December and played some wonderful Christmas carols and some favourite tunes. Denamona School choir and Donacavey Sunday School choir took part and did a wonderful job of singing in front of the audience. Thanks to Denamoma school teachers and the Sunday school leaders for all their hard work in preparing the children.

Craft Fair
Our Craft Fair was be held on Saturday 23rd November. Thanks to everyone who came and supported this event. Thanks also to the stall holders who brought such a wide variety of excellent items. Thanks to the team of people who baked and provided the lovely food on the day and to the workers who washed cups and saucers and tidied up after the event. The total raised was £2,700, £1,000 more than last year.

Parish Dinner
Our parish dinner was held on Saturday 11th of January and again this proved to be a great hit with those who attended. Around 60 parishioners enjoyed a lovely meal and after the meal were entertained by a Mr and Mrs Competition. Well done to the three couples who bravely put themselves under the scrutiny Lorna Beattie who prepared the questions and hosted the event.
Wise words on worship — Psalm 95 (Venite)

‘Man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever’ (Westminster Confession).

We are created to worship, but who or what will we worship? Psalm 95 invites us to worship God and to engage with His presence and power.

Rejoicing in God (v1-v5)

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord. (v1) In worship we are called to praise God through ‘singing, shouting and extolling’, because He is our king (v3), creator (v4) and rock (v5). He truly has the whole world in His hands, including you and me! Whatever our circumstances, worship enables us to acknowledge his sovereignty over our lives.

Reverence before God (v6,v7):

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. (v6) Worship brings us into the place of submission before God. The New Testament word for worship means ‘to prostrate’ ourselves before Him. It challenges the counterfeit ‘gods’ in our lives, for example, power, money, work etc, as well as calling us to trust Him in whatever we are facing, as He is a loving shepherd who cares for us.

Responding to God (v8-v11)

Today, if only you would hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as you did...in the wilderness’ (v8,v9). Our worship enables us to listen and hear God’s voice. He has a fresh word to speak to our lives on a daily basis. Unlike the people of Israel in the wilderness, we are warned not to harden our hearts, but to embrace God’s new life. The test of genuine worship is not whether it feels good or fits our taste, but does this lead to greater obedience in our lives.

Services in February 2019

Sunday 2nd February 2019 - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple
10.30 am: Donagh Parish Church: A Celebration of Holy Communion
12.00 noon: Tyholland Parish Church: A Celebration of Holy Communion

Sunday 9th February 2019 - The Third Sunday before Lent
10.30am: Donagh Parish Church: Morning Prayer
12.00 noon: Errigal Truagh: A Celebration of Holy Communion

Sunday 16th February 2019 - The Second Sunday before Lent
10.30am: Donagh Parish Church: Morning Prayer
12.00 noon: Tyholland Parish Church: Morning Prayer

Sunday 23rd February 2019 - The Sunday before Lent
10.30am: Donagh Parish Church: Morning Prayer (Family Service)
12.00 noon: Errigal Truagh Parish Church: Morning Prayer

Girls’ Brigade Enrolment Service

Revd. Lorraine Capper welcomed the Donagh Girls’ Brigade Branch, the 23rd Company of the Girls’ Brigade in Ireland to St. Salvator’s on 24th November for their annual enrolment service. The Revd. Lorraine received the Girls’ Brigade Colours from Victoria Heatrick assisted by Sarah Williamson and Rebekah Hill. Mrs. Margaret Dudgeon was enrolled as the Captain of the Branch and Lyn Graham, Lynne Williamson, Diane Singleton, Anne Dudgeon and Rachel Dudgeon were all enrolled as Lieutenants. The whole Company of girls sang an anthem “Who Put the Colour in the Rainbow?”. The Senior girls sang “The Earth is the Lord’s”. Sarah Taylor and Katie Singleton read the Scripture. We had a very interesting drama entitled “That’s Mine!” beautifully performed by Alesha McManus, Ellen Singleton and Jessica Coulter. Rebekah Hill and Leah Clarke led us in our prayers. Alexandra Kendrick and Yena Bae lifted the offering which was kindly donated by the Company to the Bishop’s Appeal. Zara Gillanders operated the PowerPoint throughout the service. Revd Lorraine in closing paid thanks to Captain Margaret and her leadership team for all their dedication and commitment to the girls. She said “When I visit the Girls’ Brigade I am always made very welcome and can see that the girls are very enthused to be there and they always seem to have a fun time.”

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Rural Dean: Canon Ian Berry
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Father Hubert Martin and Revd. Lorraine gave the Christmas Blessing.

Revd. Lorraine also thanked the parents for faithfully sending the girls week by week to Girls’ Brigade. She also thanked the girls and their families who had supported the Team Hope Shoe-box Appeal. Twenty-one shoe-boxes were filled as a result of a huge team effort by the company. Presentations were made by Revd Lorraine to Rachel Singleton for attaining third place in Ireland in the Junior Section of Arts and Crafts; and to Zara Gillanders for achieving 4th place in Ireland in the Senior Section of Arts and Crafts. Congratulations to both Rachel and Zara.

Carol Services
Each parish church within the group hosted a service of nine lessons and carols. Sunday 1st December started the Christmas celebrations in Tyholland Parish Church, which was attractively decorated with a large Christmas tree and with many candles, reminding us we were still in the season of Advent. Revd. Lorraine led the service and welcomed all. She was so pleased to see so many from the local community in attendance. We were delighted to have Canon Paddy McGinn with us for the first time at our Carol Service. Little Amelia Garland recited a lovely Christmas poem telling us of the true meaning of Christmas. Readers were Jessica Coulter, Geraldine Evans, Alexandra Kendrick, Beverley McBride, Jessica Russell, Lily Stewart, Lucy Stewart, Shirley Wilson and Canon Paddy McGinn. The Donagh Choir sang “O Holy Night”. The Senior Choir were joined by the Donagh Junior Choir in singing “How Quietly”. The Donagh Parish Junior Choir also sang “It is Somebody’s Birthday” and “Hush, It’s a Baby”. We also had the newly formed chamber choir, Cantari Donagh sing “The Coventry Carol”. We wish Geraldine Casey and all the members all the best in this new venture. Thanks to Mrs Elizabeth Garland for supplying presents for each child in the congregation. A lovely supper was provided after the service in Tyholland Community Hall. We are thankful to Tom who offered a helping hand in setting-up and opening the hall.

Sunday 8th December was the turn of Errigal Truagh. Canon McQuaid read the Christmas Gospel. Other readers included Helen Irwin, Diane Singleton, William Singleton, Arlene Stewart, Lucy Stewart, Sarah Taylor and Revd. Lorraine Capper. It was great to see a large gathering at this service. The Donagh Community Choir led us in singing four anthems. Solos were given by Geraldine Casey and Alexandra Kendrick. Alexandra is to be praised for singing the Rutter piece “Carol of the Children.” A magnificent supper was served in Blackwater Learning Centre and we are very grateful to the staff who helped prepare the hall. Thanks also to all who provided the supper and to those who tastefully decorated the church.

Donagh Parish Church
The Carol Service was held on Sunday 15 December. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion. We were delighted with a filled church. The service started with Rebecca Coulter singing her little heart out in the first verse of “Away in a Manager”. Donagh choir led us in our worship. The Donagh Parish Choir sang: “O Holy Night” and “O the Valleys Shall Ring”. The Junior Choir joined the senior choir in singing “How Quietly”. The Junior Choir then sang on their own “Hush. There’s a Baby”. We were treated to Alexandra Kendrick, who once again delivered a wonderful performance of “Carol of the Children”. The readers included peoples of all ages, namely Jessica Coulter, Rachel Dudgeon, Eileen Fielding, Alexandra Kendrick, Emily Sheridan, Jean Wallace, Marina Waller, Matthew Waller.
Nativity Play
Donagh Parish Church hosted a group service for the Nativity Play. The Sunday School under the guidance of their teachers and helpers did a magnificent production taking us back to that first Christmas in Bethlehem and reminding us the greatest story ever told. Thanks to their teachers: Amanda Atkinson, Edna Taylor, Deborah Treanor and Marina Waller and to all who helped out with the teaching in Sunday School. Thanks also to the Junior Choir, all our young musicians and some of the confirmation candidates this was a truly wonderful occasion. At the end of the service presents were given to each of child.

Community Carols
This year we gathered around the Christmas tree in Glaslough village as we sang carols and heard the good news of the Christmas Story. Revd. Lorraine read the Gospel reading for Christmas.

Winter’s Tale
Once again tickets were in hot demand. Within a day or two the whole two nights were sold out. A huge thanks goes to Mrs. Ethne McCord for the dedication and devotion she gave in training both the Junior and Community Choirs for this event. The choirs are also to be praised for their commitment in attending many practices over the previous months. Special thanks to Mr. Gerard Toal who for many weeks played for hours at the piano. This year we were very pleased to have a whole team of players for hours at the piano. This year we were very pleased to have a whole team of musicians. On drums Peter Toal; violinists Kenneth Atkinson and George Watson; flutist Jamie Duffy; playing the harp and the accordion Ben Duffy; and pipers the Sommerville family. We had a feast of musical talent each evening interspersed with poems and reflections read by the Revd. Lorraine Capper who also compered the evening. This year we were delighted by magnificent performances by the young Jessica Coulter and Sophie Breakey who each recited a poem. Mr. Michael Fisher and Mr. Pat Deery were our guests. They read the Christmas poem by Patrick Kavanagh “A Christmas Childhood”. Thanks also to Mr. Ian Lovett who kindly played the organ for the community carols each evening. Special thanks to our duets: Emily Glynn and Geraldine Casey; Gareth Corrigan and Diane Wright-Kendrick. At the end of the evening we were piped to Castle Leslie where beautiful refreshments were served. Thanks goes to Brian Baldwin and the management and staff of Castle Leslie. Thanks also to those who worked hard behind the scenes for this event, without their dedication this event would not have been possible: those who erected the stage and looked after the lighting of many candles, a huge thanks. Thanks also to those who so tastefully decorated the church and to those who arranged parking. Thanks to the sound engineers and churchwardens. Two wonderful and memorable evenings expressing the true meaning of Christmas. All proceeds are to go towards a new room for our Sunday School.

Out in the Community
Revd. Lorraine and Mr Patrick Herron and Mr David Boyd were guests on the RTE Radio One Programme “Countrywide” on Saturday 7th December. David spoke about farming and the challenges that he faces in the coming year with all the uncertainty surrounding Brexit. Patrick spoke about his ever growing pizza business in the village of Glaslough. Revd. Lorraine spoke about Christ being the true reason for the season of Christmas. No Christ means no Christmas. Revd. Lorraine was also at the celebrations in the Busy Bee Pottery. A wonderful night was had by one and all praising Brenda for achieving 10 years in business.

Mothers’ Union
We are looking forward to going to the Armagh Theatre to hear Derek Ryan on February 7th. We plan to have a meal together before we attend this concert.

Congratulations
Congratulations to Mr Iain Dudgeon who proposed to the lovely Suzanne Buckley on 11th November. Wishing you God’s richest blessing as you prepare to be married. Congratulations also to Sophie Breakey and Katherine Ryan for their recent ballet performances at the Garage Theatre in Monaghan.

Congratulations to Sharon Black on her new job. Wishing you every continuing success. Congratulations to Revd. Lorraine Capper who was recently appointed as Chair of the Board of Management at Billis School. Also congratulations to Ron Kendrick and Walter Dudgeon who will also serve on the same board.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Drew Montgomery on celebrating his 30th birthday.

Sympathy
We express our sympathy to all who have been recently bereaved; among them Mrs Diane Coulter on the loss of her cousin; Mrs Dolly Breakey on the loss of her Aunt and Mr Maurice and Eileen Fielding on the loss of their Sister-in-law and Aunt and we offer our sincere sympathy to all who remember the anniversary of a lost loved one.
Rector:
The Revd Andrew Quill

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Sunday Services (February)

2nd February
9.00am  HC 2, “Presentation of Christ in the Temple” (Luke 2:22-40)
11.00am  Family Service, “Passionate about His House” (John 2:13-22)

9th February
11.00am  MP 3, “Understanding the things of God” (1 Cor 2:1-16)
7.30pm Praise & Ministry Service (Rev Henry Blair, SOMA Ireland)

16th February
11.00am  HC 2, “Running after God, or...?” (Matthew 6:25-34)

23rd February
11.00am  S o W, “Listen to Him!” (Matthew 17:1-9)
S o W – Service of the Word
HC 2 – Holy Communion, Form 2
MP 3 – Morning Prayer, Form 3

Make time for the most important things

Howard Rutledge, a United States Air Force pilot, was shot down over North Vietnam during the early stages of the war. He spent several miserable years in the hands of his captors before being released at the war’s conclusion. In his book In the Presence of Mine Enemies, he reflects upon the inner resources (or lack of same) from which he drew in those arduous days when life seemed so intolerable.

“During those longer periods of enforced reflection it became so much easier to separate the important from the trivial, the worthwhile from the waste. For example, in the past, I usually worked or played hard on Sundays and had no time for church. For years Phyllis [his wife] had encouraged me to join the family at church. She never nagged or scolded—she just kept hoping. “But I was too busy, too preoccupied, to spend one or two short hours a week thinking about the really important things. “Now the sights and sounds and smells of death were all around me. My hunger for spiritual food soon outdid my hunger for a steak. Now I wanted to know about that part of me that will never die. Now I wanted to talk about God and Christ and the church. But in Heartbreak [the name POWS gave their prison camp] solitary confinement, there was no pastor, no Sunday School teacher, no Bible, no hymnbook, no community of believers to guide and sustain me. I had completely neglected the spiritual dimension of my life. It took prison to show me how empty life is without God.”

Gordon MacDonald, Ordering Your Private World (Highland Books, Godalming, UK) Page 157-158

Praise and Ministry Service
9th February at 7.30pm
Our Praise and Ministry Service has moved to the second Sunday of the month. This is partly to give us an opportunity to minister with a team from the parish in Praise Services in other parishes, under the umbrella of SOMA Ireland (Sharing Of Ministries Abroad). Revd Henry Blair, who is the National Director of SOMA Ireland, will be speaking about this revived ministry at our Praise and Ministry Service on Sunday 9th February at 7.30pm. He will also be teaching and leading the ministry time. Everyone welcome. Tea and coffee afterwards.

An Evening of Christmas Praise
Dromore Primary School hosted ‘An Evening of Christmas Praise’ on Saturday 7th December at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity Church. Mrs Gillian Glass, the Principal, opened the evening with a welcome on behalf of the Primary School and then The Morrisons sang some pieces before introducing a section led by the children from the school. Despite several the children not being able to be present due to sickness, the children sang well and got a roar of applause when they finished. Then Lorraine Vance sang a few beautiful pieces before the Interval. In the second half, Alex Robb sang, among other pieces, Michael Card’s powerful song ‘Immanuel’ and then The Morrisons sang a few more pieces. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the night, with Lorraine Vance, Alex Robb and The Morrisons leading us at the end in singing ‘Joy to the World’ and ‘How Great Thou Art!’ A big thank you to Mr Reggie Mills who organised the event. I would recommend people attending...
another event which he has organised called ‘Gospel Fest Goes West’ on Saturday 29th February 2020 in Strule Arts Centre, Omagh at 7.30pm. All proceeds will be in aid of the Methodist Missionary Society (Ireland). In Reggie’s words: If you’re free it would be great if you can come along to hear some amazing Gospel artists, namely Jenn Bostic from Nashville and local artists: Live Issue, Laura Dowey, Paul Silcock and Katie McGown. If you would like to book tickets please contact: The Strule Arts Centre, Omagh or myself [Reggie Mills] on 07736826969.

Keeping up to date
There are a number of ways that you can keep up to date with everything that is going on in the parish:
- Visit our website www.holytrinitydromore.org
- Like our page ‘Holy Trinity Dromore’ on Facebook
- Follow us on Twitter @HTDromore.
- Get a recording of the service on CD every week
- http://holytrinitydromore.sermon.net (to download and listen to sermons)

School service
We were delighted this year to host the Primary School Service on 17 December when it is fair to say that the church was filled to capacity and a little bit more. Once again it was obvious that a lot of work went into this service as we again saw some new ways to think about the Christmas story. Our thanks to Mrs Jill Parkinson, the staff and pupils of the school as well as to all who attended. We look forward to seeing them again in four year’s time.

Shoebox Appeal
As always the Hall at Tubrid was a hive of activity in November as shoeboxes were gathered, checked and packed for onward distribution. Irene Boyd and her team of helpers worked tirelessly to ensure that the boxes contained only the permitted items and they packed well over 3000 boxes which were collected on Saturday 30 November for transportation to children who otherwise would receive nothing on Christmas day. Our thanks to Irene and all who give of their time in this way and whose actions will have helped make Christmas brighter for many children.

Carol Services
We also had our Carol Services as we heard the Christmas story in the traditional lessons and carols. My sincerest thanks to all who were willing to read a lesson and also to those who chose and played the music at our services as well as the Men’s Choir in Tubrid for their contribution to the service there.

Confirmation
As we look forward, the confirmation preparation classes will begin shortly and we look forward to the service of confirmation in May. I hope that this service is a meaningful one for the young people and their families.

Lent
We are approaching the Season of Lent which begins on Wednesday 26 February with a joint service at Tubrid. I would encourage you to view the season of Lent as being an opportunity to reflect on your walk with your Saviour.

Looking forward
As the days grow longer and we look forward to the summer with all of its promise I would encourage you to take every day as it comes and enjoy the moment as we do not know what tomorrow will bring for any one of us.
I hope that this year and this decade brings all that you wish for and that you know your Lord more as you journey through life.

Parish Register
Baptism
We were delighted to welcome two new members of the group of parishes in December.
On Sunday 22 December - Jake Andrew Ivan Johnston, son of Darren and Vanessa was baptised during the Carol Service. On Sunday 29 December - Eilie Elizabeth Kerrigan, daughter of Richard and Debbie was baptised at Drumkeeran. It was wonderful to be joined by the family and friends of each of these children and we offer our congratulations to Darren and Vanessa and Richard and Debbie on their new arrivals. We hope and pray that they along with the godparents would encourage both Jake and Eilie to take their place in the church as they grow.

February 2019
Sunday 2 February
Morning Prayer 10.00 Templecarne, Morning Prayer Tubrid 11.30
Sunday 9 February
Holy Communion 10.00 Muckross, Holy Communion 11.30 Tubrid
Sunday 16 February
Holy Communion 10.00 Templecarne, Morning Prayer 11.30 Tubrid
Wednesday 26 February
Ash Wednesday Service 8pm Tubrid
Sunday 23 February
Morning Prayer 10.00 Muckross, Holy Communion 11.30 Tubrid
for confirmation. The Confirmation service, which will be a Group service will be held in Drum Church on Sunday, 16th February at 11am. Please support Nathan, Daniel and Sophia with your prayers and support on the day.

Ash Wednesday
There will be a service in Rockcorry on Ash Wednesday at 8pm which will be conducted by Mr. Walter Pringle.

Personal
We remember in our prayers the sick and bereaved among us.

Aughnamullen
Fund Raising Event For Church Repairs
The pop-up shop held on 6th and 7th December 2019 in Ballybay town was a successful event and our thanks to Agnes Mc Guinness for allowing us the use of her vacant premises in Ballybay for holding the event. We are grateful to all those who called in and supported the event.

Carol Service
Our thanks to those who came along and supported our Carol service on 9th December at 3pm. Our special thanks to Walter Pringle for arranging and conducting the service and to Mrs Ethel Ritchie for playing the organ and also to the readers. The church was tastefully decorated and we are grateful to those who carried it out, also to the ladies for the welcome cup of tea and mince pies after the service making the event an enjoyable occasion.

Congratulations
Our congratulations to Tristan McMurray and Aoife O'Sullivan who became engaged during the Christmas season. We continue to remember in our prayers and thoughts those who have been unwell and those in residential care. We are very grateful to Walter Pringle for all his help and ministry to us and also to Canon Charles McCollum for providing our Holy Communion services for us.

Crossduff
The annual Carol service was held in Crossduff Church on Sunday 1st December 2019 at 3pm and marked the start of the Carol services. This event was very well supported by the local community and other churches. Special thanks to Doreen Monahan who arranged the service and to the Ballybay Country Gospel Group for providing us with delightful items, to the guest speaker Venerable Craig McCauley from Virginia Group of Parishes, Co Cavan, also to Father Owen Mc Gorman and Walter Pringle, Diocesan Pastoral assistant and to all the readers. Our special thanks to the Sunday School children for singing two lovely pieces and also to the teachers for all their help in training them. Refreshments were served in the hall afterwards, thanks to all those who brought food and helped in any way.

Thanks
Aughabog Parish Church would like to thank all the parishes in the Group of Ematris who attended the barbecue in August and also to our neighbours and friends of the wider community who also donated so generously to the Cavan and Monaghan Palliative Care. A total of €1340 has been presented for this worthy cause. The team have expressed
sincere thanks to all involved and made this most generous contribution to the fun.

**Drum**

**Carol Service**
The Carol service was held on Friday 6th December. Guest choir was Cantari Donagh who are a newly formed chamber choir but part of Donagh community choir in Glaslough area, accompanied by Gerard Toal on piano. They sang “Just another star,” “The candlelight carol” and finished the service with “A Christmas Blessing.” The Sunday School children did a great job reading all the lessons and leading the prayers. Many thanks to our organist Sharon and to Ellie who accompanied on guitar. And to Walter for conducting the service.

A festive supper was served and everybody enjoyed a time of fellowship.

**Confirmation**

Confirmation for the group will be held in Drum Church on Sunday 16th February at 11am. There are nine candidates preparing for this occasion when they move forward in their journey.

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**Enniskillen Cathedral**

Rector: The Dean, The Very Revd Kenneth Hall
St Macartin’s Deaneery, 13 Church Street, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh BT74 7DW

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**Services in December**

**Sunday 2nd February: The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**
9.00am - Holy Communion
11.00am - Holy Communion
7.00pm – Evening Prayer

**Thursday 6th February**
11.00am – Holy Communion

**Sunday 9th February: The Third Sunday before Lent**
9.00am - Holy Communion
11.00am – Morning Prayer (MU All Ireland President to Visit)
7.00pm - Evening Prayer

**Thursday 13th February**
11.00am – Holy Communion

**Sunday 16th February: The Second Sunday before Lent**
9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Holy Communion
7.00pm - Evening Prayer

**Thursday 20th February**
11.00am – Holy Communion

**Sunday 23rd February: The Sunday before Lent**
9.00am - Holy Communion
11.00am - Morning Prayer (Family Service)
7.00pm - Holy Communion

**Thursday 27th February**
11.00am – Holy Communion
1.05pm – Healing Service

**Holy Baptism**

- 15th December - Skye Robyn Gault
- 5th January - Harrison Jack James Gray
- 19th January - Theo Harvey Hoy

**Christian Burial**

- 28th December - James Bell, BEM, 9 Loane Drive, Enniskillen.
- 7th January - Joan Mary Hill, 10 College Gardens, Enniskillen.

**Programme of Safety Checks of Headstones and Memorials**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is undertaking a programme of safety checks of headstones and memorials in its five operational cemeteries at Fintona, Greenhill and Dublin Road, Omagh and Cross and Braidrum, Enniskillen. The inspections began in December 2019 and will include a visual inspection and a physical hand test to check the stability of a memorial or headstone. If a headstone or memorial is deemed unstable the Council will contact the proprietor of the right of burial to advise them that remedial works are required to make it permanently safe. If action is not taken in the specified time-frame, the Council will as a temporary measure, make the memorial safe. For further information or advice, please contact the Council’s Parks and Open Space service by telephoning 03003031777 or email info@ermangaghomagh.com.

**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, Xplore, 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 Peace Light from Bethlehem**

St Macartin’s Cathedral and St Michael’s Church 21st December 2019

**Story of Peace Light**

In December each year a candle is lit in the grotto of Christ’s birth in the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem. This flame is then taken by young Israeli and Palestinian Scouts to Tel Aviv Airport where it will be brought to Austria. Then a service for the gift of peace is held in Vienna. Scouts from all over Europe then transport the flame all over the world. Scouting Ireland delegates collected the flame in Holyhead and brought it to Dublin.

A Peace light service was held in Dublin to pass the Peace light onto Scout Groups who brought it to their communities and parishes. The Peace light for 2019 arrived...
in Enniskillen on Saturday 21st December and was carried from St Michael’s Roman Catholic Church to St Macartin’s Cathedral in the presence of Her Majesty’s Representative for Co. Fermanagh, Viscount Brookeborough, KG, K StJ. The chain of light is a symbol of peace, warmth, love and family. By passing on this peace light of Bethlehem we want to spread happiness and hope into the hearts of all who come in contact with it.

Messy Church

November’s Messy Church took inspiration from the Book of Psalms which frequently tells us to “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.” Our theme was Messy Music and we had lots of fun making our own instruments, learning new songs and generally being LOUD! Our afternoon was topped off with some delicious treats provided by the Mother’s Union.

Our December Messy Church was packed full of festive spirit! We spent time playing party games, making crafts, enjoying supper and our leaders even told us the story of the very first Christmas! Our afternoon was made extra special with a visit from a surprise guest. Santa Claus made the journey to meet with all our boys and girls and to wish us all a Merry Christmas!

Messy Church is open to children of primary school age and of all denominations. All children must be accompanied by an adult. The rule is: no child without an adult and no adult without a child.

There is NO Messy Church in January, so our next session is Thursday 20th February from 4-6pm. We look forward to seeing you all for More Messy Madness and Mayhem!

Confirmation Class

November and December saw us welcome a new group of excited young people to begin their Confirmation journey. We kicked off our year with a pizza party and some fun games to get to know each other. Meeting on Monday nights from 6.30-7.30pm in the Upper Room of the Cathedral Hall, these classes are an interactive way for our young people to learn about the Church and their faith.

Our dates for February are:
• Monday 3rd February
• Monday 10th February
If you are Year 9 or above and wish to find out more about Confirmation Class, please get in touch - you can find us on Facebook or Instagram, or you can contact Beth in the Cathedral Office!

Confirmation candidates are also encouraged to attend Xplore - our youth group which meets one Monday a month in place of Confirmation class.

Xplore

December saw the return of our Xplore Youth Group. We met together in the Upper Room for an evening of fun, food and fellowship! We played games, decorated Christmas cookies and watched some festive movies; it was great to see faces new and old, with everyone donning their finest Christmas attire! Xplore meets once a month and everyone in Year 9 or above is welcome to attend. Come along and bring a friend! Our next Xplore is on Monday 24th February at 7.30pm!

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 26th February
7.30pm – Penitential Service with Holy Communion

Lenten Services
• Wednesday 4th March 7.30pm – Compline
• Wednesday 11th March 7.30pm – Compline
• Wednesday 18th March 7.30pm – Compline
• Wednesday 25th March 7.30pm – Compline
• Wednesday 1st April 7.30pm – Compline

Mothers’ Union

Some members attended a Prayer Vigil for People against Trafficking on Tuesday 26th November in Garvary Parish Church. Mervyn Smyth from Andstraw gave an interesting talk on what we need to watch out for. Any late, unusual movement of people to houses in your area should be reported to the relevant authorities. A quantity of items were also donated to Fermanagh Women’s Aid.

The Christmas outing was to Ardhowen Theatre on 3rd December to see the Addam’s Family Musical. An enjoyable night was had by all in attendance.
The AGM was held after the meeting on Monday 13th January, which was a Service of Holy Communion celebrated by the Dean. We thank Mrs Stephanie Hamilton our outgoing branch leader for her enthusiasm and dedication to her role since September 2016 and we welcome Mrs Jenifer Johnston as the new branch leader and look forward to exciting years ahead. St Macartin’s Mothers’ Union Officers; Branch Leader Jenifer Johnston Secretary: Sally Masterson Treasurer: Maud Shaw Overseas Representative: Valerie Watson Committee Members: Stephanie Hall, Christine Halpin, Stephanie Hamilton, Hazel Hunter, Avril Kee, Estelle Latimer, Margaret Owens, Susan Spratt and Jeanette Wilson.

Mothers’ Union All-Ireland President to visit Enniskillen Cathedral on Sunday 9th February for Morning Prayer
June Butler was recently elected All-Ireland President of the Mothers’ Union. Before that, she was, for nine years, assistant chief electoral officer for Northern Ireland. She was married to Kevin for almost 40 years until his death in 2017. She was brought up on a farm outside Donaghadee. After her post-primary education at Regent House, she obtained a degree in English at the then new University of Ulster in Coleraine. Subsequently, for 37 years, she held various full-time posts in the public sector, in agriculture, housing, training, educational research and elections, eventually leaving in 2009 after nine years as assistant chief electoral officer for Northern Ireland. She was then appointed diocesan secretary of the two Church of Ireland dioceses of Connor and Down and Dromore and served in that role until she retired at the end of 2016. Now she has taken on the role of All-Ireland President of the Mothers’ Union.

Speaking of her election June said: “Mothers’ Union is a member–led organisation and I feel both humbled and privileged to have been elected by members throughout Ireland as their next President. I will try my best, with God’s guidance and with support from all my talented colleagues, to lead Mothers’ Union in Ireland in a way that will encourage all our members to make a difference in their parishes and in their communities, as well as supporting projects worldwide. As ever, we will focus on the MU aims and objectives which are essentially to support family life in every context.”

Parish Lunch
To mark the visit of the All-Ireland President of the Mothers’ Union to St Macartin’s Cathedral on Sunday 9th February, a Sunday Lunch will be held in the Cathedral Halls for all Mothers’ Union Members, Family and Friends (cost £15.00 per adult, children aged 5-10 cost £5 and under 5 no charge). This is open for all parishioners and not just Mothers’ Union Members. Those who wish to attend please add your name to the list in the porch or speak to a member of the Mothers’ Union Committee.

Tuesday Club
Eleanor opened our last Tuesday Club meeting with the Lord’s Prayer. Valerie Thompson and Susan Spratt who had organised a General Knowledge Quiz and then held a draw to decide which team members would be on. Instructions were given, papers distributed and the quiz commenced. All members thoroughly enjoyed testing their general knowledge. Prizes were awarded to the table with the highest score. A draw was also held and won by Roberta Sherrard. A delicious Christmas afternoon tea was served, bringing the meeting to a close. The next meeting was on 28th January with speaker, Edna Topping who demonstrated ‘Patchwork’ and then on 25th February, the speaker will talk to us about ‘Living with Dementia.’ All senior parishioners are welcome.

Bowling Club
On Wednesday 11th December the morning bowling club (pictured above) held a “Round Robin Tournament” in the Cathedral Hall in aid of Macmillan Cancer. A very enjoyable morning of bowls was had by all and the amount raised was £250 which was then donated to Macmillan Cancer. When play finished, we all enjoyed some refreshments and prizes were distributed to the winners. Bowling Club continue to meet on Wednesday’s – Mornings 10.30am and evenings 7.30pm.

Prayer Books
Do you have a Prayer book in your home? If not you should have! We are a Prayer Book church and the Prayer Book should not just be on those shelves at the back of the church for use on Sunday, but there should be a copy of a Prayer Book in every home. Everything in it is biblically based and it is a vital tool to everyday living, for daily prayer, and for nourishment and for enriching our daily walk with God. As you leaf through the Prayer Book you will find services and prayers for daily use, and for every situation and worry in life. It is a marvellous resource so use it. Copies are available from the Cathedral Office for £20 and would make an ideal gift!

Parish History Book
Another great gift would be St Macartin’s 400 Years of Parish History by Samuel Morrow. Available from the Parish Office, and still at the launch price of £20.

Holy Baptism
If any families have children or adults who are not baptised, please contact the Dean. If desired a private baptism can be arranged for adults and older children. The baptism took place in St Macartin’s Cathedral of Harrison, son of Brian and Naomi Gray.

Adult Confirmation
Any adults, who are not already confirmed, and would like to be please contact the Clergy. This takes place at a private service just for those involved.

Welcome
We extend a very warm welcome to the Revd Mark Gallagher, recently appointed Rector to our neighbouring parishes of Trory and Killadeas and wish him every blessing in his ministry.

A New Year Prayer
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.
Mothers’ Union
The opening service of the year with Holy Communion was held in St. John’s Church and was attended by 24 members. Precentor Hanlon conducted the service and spoke from Ephesians 1, on how we have spiritual blessings in Christ. The Epistle was read by Mrs Irene Boyd, Diocesan President. The Commissioning of the new leaders of the committee was conducted by Precentor Hanlon.
Long service certificates were presented by Mrs Irene Boyd to: Zelda Frazer, Violet Hall, Muriel Henry and Olive Morrow (35 years service), Sheila Burke (40 years service), Doreen Carruth and Barbara Kingston, (45 years service), Eileen Stutt, (55 years service), Betty Irwin (60 years service).
The collection amounting to £76.50 is being given to Mothers’ Union Relief Fund. At the meeting following the service, Mrs Irene Boyd spoke on Jesus giving us hope, having a vision for us and knowing the way we should go. Branch Leader, Hilary Kenny, thanked Precentor Hanlon for conducting the service and Mrs Irene Boyd for taking part. She also congratulated those who had received Long Service Certificates. The Annual Secretary and Treasurer’s Reports were presented by Emily Kells and Sheila Burke.
Congratulations were extended to Florence Brunt on her recent award of the M.B.E. The Diocesan Prayer Breakfast is being held in St. John’s Hall on 22 February when the speaker will be Mrs June Butler, All Ireland President at a cost of €10.
An Evensong Service is being held in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin on Sunday 29 March at 3.15pm. The speaker will be Sheran Harper. The meeting closed with members joining in The Grace.

Monthly Cycle of Services:
Service of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month, celebrated in all three Churches. A Family Service will normally be on the third Sunday of the month. During the year some Group Family Services will be held, and these will rotate between the three Parishes.
Service of Morning Prayer on the second and fourth Sundays in the month. A United Group Service on the fifth Sundays in the year (with a cup of tea afterwards, rotating between the three Parishes).

Christmas
In the lead up to Christmas, there were Carol Services in each church with the Sunday School children and some of the young people playing major roles in the services. Thanks are expressed to all those who helped with the decoration of our churches for Christmas, those who took part in the various services, provided refreshments and all who helped in any way.

Galloons’ Dance
A dance was being held in the Church Hall on 31st January with music by Livingstone Country Band with dancing from 10.00pm to 1.00am. Tickets £5.00 including supper.

Mothers’ Union
The Galloon & Drummully Mothers’ Union opening service of Holy Communion was scheduled to be held on Monday 27th January 2020 at 8.00pm in Galloon Parish Church.

Parish Auction
The next auction will be on Saturday 18th April 2020 at 12.00 noon in The Church Hall, High Street, Newtownbutler. We are fortunate to have been given part contents of two houses so have a lot of good quality items for sale in what promises to be a very good auction. There will be at least 500 lots and we hope to give a list of large and interesting items in future issues.

Sympathy
Deepest sympathies to Mrs Pearl Wiggins and family on the death of her father, Mr Eddie Kelly on 22nd November 2019 and sincere condolences to the wider family circle.
Deepest sympathies to Elizabeth, Stuart and Fiona and sincere condolences to the wider family circle on the death of their mother Mrs Silvia Roberts whose burial took place...
in Galloon Parish graveyard on the 18th December 2019.
Deepest sympathies to the family circle of the late Miss Edith Little whose burial took place in Galloon Parish graveyard on 3rd January 2020.

Remembrance and Reconciliation
A deeply meaningful service of remembrance and reconciliation was conducted by Mr Roy Crowe to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the late Mr Bobby Crilly who was murdered by IRA terrorists. It took place on 5th January 2020 in Galloon Parish Church.

We welcomed members of the extended Crilly family and members of the South East Fermanagh Foundation who took part in the service.

Sallaghy Mothers’ Union
The Mothers’ Union theme for 2020 is “Building Hope and Confidence”. On Thursday 9th January 2020, Lettie Coulter spoke on the theme “Many Ways to Wear Your Scarf”.

It is planned that the Atwells will speak on “A Trip to the Holy Land” on Thursday 6th February at 8.00pm in the Church Hall.

On Saturday 22nd February, members are encouraged to attend the Worldwide Breakfast in Fivemiletown Parish Hall.

Dance
A Parish Dance was held on Friday 8th November in the Church Hall. Music was by “Wee Tom” with £616 being raised for church Funds. Thanks to Wray Whittendale for his organisation of this event and all those who supported it in any way.

Tidy Up
Thank you to all who helped tidy up around the church and hall during November when the main task was removing all the fallen leaves.

Bowling Tournament
The annual Sallaghy Parish Pairs Bowling Tournament will take place in the week commencing Monday 10th February with play on each night with the final on Friday 14th February.

90th Birthday congratulations
Our congratulations to Mrs Madge Clingan, Derrylea who recently celebrated her 90th birthday.

Drummully
175th Anniversary Service
A large congregation including many visitors was present in St Mary’s Church Drummully for their 175th Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday 24th November 2019, the Feast of Christ The King. The service was conducted by Mr Roy Crowe and opened with the hymn “Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided us”. The lessons were read by Mr William Allen and Mrs Eileen Hall. Between the readings, the Group Choir sang “My heart is filled with thankfulness”. The hymn “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!” preceded the sermon which was preached by the Bishop of Clogher, Right Revd John McDowell. In his sermon the Bishop congratulated the parishioners on their work to maintain the buildings but also on ensuring that worship continued in the Drummully area of the Diocese. He noted that whilst rectors come and go, the parishioners remained and ensured that the life and witness of the parish was maintained. Mr Crowe led the prayers before the offertory hymn which was “O worship the King, All-glorious above”. The organists were Mrs May Leitch, Mrs Grace Rickey and Miss Joyce Clingan. “To God be the Glory, great things he hath done” was the recessional hymn before the congregation adjourned to the Parish Hall where they were served a scrumptious afternoon tea. Former Rector, The Rev Canon Nigel Baylor (now serving in St Patrick’s Church, Jordanstown) cut the anniversary cake which had been baked by Mrs Hazel Robinson.

The parishioners would like to thank Mr Roy Crowe for all his help in preparing the service and leading it on the day, the Bishop for attending and preaching the sermon, all those who attended the service, provided and served the supper or helped in any way. It was a great way to mark such a milestone in the life of the Parish.

Congratulations
Congratulations to Jacqueline and Eoin on the birth of their baby daughter Sophie, a sister to Joshua and Marcus, granddaughter to Hazel and John Robinson.
Slavin and Belleek Sunday School children and teachers at the December Nativity play.

Garrison, Slavin, Belleek and Kiltyclogher

Rector: The Revd Canon Ngozi Njoku

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Services
Sunday 9th February
Kiltyclogher 10am HC
Belleek 11.30 HC

Sunday 16th February
Garrison 10am MP
Slavin 11.30am MP

Sunday 23rd February
Kiltyclogher 10am MP
Belleek 11.30 MP

Ash Wednesday 26th February
Garrison 7.30pm EP
Followed by MU meeting & supper (open to all) in Garrison Church Hall

Sunday 1st March
Garrison 10am HC
Slavin 11.30 HC

Dedication of Flower Arrangement
On 20th October the family of the late Mrs Gladys Thompson presented a beautiful silk flower arrangement to Garrison Parish church in her memory. Revd Canon Ngozi dedicated the arrangement to the glory of God and in memory of our dearly beloved Gladys. The service reflected Mrs Thompson’s devotion to her family and church and included her favourite hymn, Amazing Grace.

Garrison Church Cookery Book Launch
A very successful Cookery Book Launch took place on Saturday 7th December in the Gillaroo Centre. A wonderful crowd of people attended and the night had some special music with Anne McCaughey and Tina. There was a very entertaining “Can’t Cook, Won’t Cook” Bake-off, with budding star chefs, Stanley Allingham, Irish Sheep Shearing Record Holder and butcher extraordinaire, John Dolan. (see photo bottom right). The book “Cooking with Joy” was launched by Canon Ngozi. It was a compilation of recipes from cookery classes over the years by Joy Graham. A lovely supper was served. Joy thanked Stanley and John and presented them with gifts for their willing participation. Lorraine and Helen, together with the Rector presented Joy with a beautiful flower arrangement in appreciation of all her work involved in the book launch. Joy reiterated her thanks to all who helped to organise this venture, particularly the ladies on the launch committee including Helen Thompson and Lorraine Boyd who did a lot of background work and also to the willing ladies who helped on the launch night by selling tickets, helping with the supper etc.

Cookery books are still available to buy at £10 each. All Proceeds from the book go to Garrison Church Funds.

Christmas Family Service
Belleek
Slavin and Belleek Sunday School presented the Drama ‘What is Christmas?’ on Sunday 15th December, at the Christmas Family Service in Slavin Church for the group of parishes. Those who took part were, Sarah Johnston (Grandma), Matthew and Jessica Johnston, Callum, Henry, Tom, and Reuben Gregg. As Grandma was preparing
Christmas cookies, she sat down with the children to discuss the real meaning of Christmas. Some of the children thought it was all about Santa Claus and presents. Grandma recapped the story of Jesus’ birth. She explained how the Christmas wreath, tree, candle and bells were all relevant to Jesus coming to earth. Santa Claus represents the spirit of giving and this goes back to the fact that God gave us the gift of his Son because he loved us and knew we needed that love. There is only one true Christmas - the Birthday of Jesus, God’s wonderful gift of love. We mustn’t over emphasise the other things that add to the season and we then will share the joy of Jesus’ birth with others. The drama was interspersed with a number of popular Christmas Songs, sung with the congregation. The organist was Ethne Earls.

Garrison Sunday School children performed a play called ‘Someone is coming to our house’. It was about the animals getting the stable ready for Joseph and Mary’s arrival for the birth of Jesus. Glen Brock and Claire Thompson played the main roles of the pastor and a bird. Ryan Graham, Cara Brock, Andries, Joe and David Ferreira were animals within the stable - cow, sheep, pig, horse, owl. Robin Boyd, Scott Brock and Ryan Carson played the three wise men while Darren Acheson and Jessica Willis were Joseph and Mary. Each child told how they were part of getting the stable ready and why Mary and Joseph had to use the stable, due to King Herod calling a census in Bethlehem. The children sang ‘Away in a Manger’ and ‘Silent Night’ while the three kings sang ‘We three Kings’. ‘Joy to the World’ was sung at the end of the play by the congregation. Canon Ngozi thanked all the Sunday School teachers and the children for their hard work in preparing for the service.

Carol Service in Kiltyclogher
The service of Carols and Lessons was held on Sunday 22nd December. A large congregation attended. The choir sang a number of carols and pieces including: Silent Night, O Beautiful Night, Peace Perfect Peace and Sans Day Carol. The choir was delighted to welcome Robin Boyd to sing a solo verse of Silent Night and he joined with Audrey Ovens in the first verse of Once in Royal David’s City. The organist was Mrs. Joy Graham. The bidding prayers were read by Stephen Irwin. The readings were read by Helen Thompson, Robert Ovens, Eddie Graham, Sister Kathleen McGarrigle, Stanley Allingham, Rev John Corrie, Mrs Jan Corrie and the Rector.

Christmas Eve
Belleek Parish Church was filled to capacity on Christmas Eve. The choir sang ‘Silent Night’ and ‘Jerusalem’ with a solo part by Robbie Johnston. The organist was Mrs. Sadie Moore. Rev John Corrie and Mrs. Liesel Zink assisted the Rector with Holy Communion.

Christmas Day
The Family service with Holy Communion was held in Garrison Church. The readings were read by Rebecca Graham and Dot Barlow. Robin Boyd sang a solo verse of Silent Night and joined with all the children singing, Away in a Manger. The Rector looked at and tried out all of the lovely toys the children had received and thanked the parents for coming to church on Christmas Day and bringing the children.

Sunday School Party
The Sunday School Party was held in the Wark Hall on Friday 20th December. Music for the games was provided by Pat and Gerry from the Lakelanders. A great evening of fun was had by parents and children. A special visitor arrived with gifts at the end of the evening which finished with a delicious supper. Thank you to all who provided food and especially to Dawn from the holiday Centre for the sandwiches. Thanks to all the teachers involved in preparing for the party, for food and games.

Christingle Service
Sunday 29th December was the annual Christingle Service held in Kiltyclogher Church. Doreen Earls told the story of Christingle and the candles were lit on the oranges. The oranges with sweet treats were distributed to the children and congregation.

Mothers’ Union
On Tuesday 15th October some members travelled to Cleenish and Mullaghdun MU Visitors night. The guest speaker was...
At the Sunday School Christmas party was Stephanie Lavery, an entertainer on Medieval medicine who dressed up in period costume and showed the ladies how common ailments were treated in a light-hearted way. It was a very enjoyable evening followed by a lovely supper. The November meeting was a Visitors’ night in Monea. Members of our MU attended the meeting in the Reade Hall, Monea on Tuesday 19th November. The speaker was Laura Gallagher (nee Ewing) from ‘Yummy Mummy Cakes and Bakes’. Laura told us how she had changed her career from a permanent job to becoming self-employed. She has had no regrets and has learned to take on work just as she is able to do it. She demonstrated icing a Christmas cake and she also involved two willing participants to decorate 6 cup cakes each, which they were delighted to take home with them. The Christmas cake was raffled. Laura Rogers, on behalf of the visitors, thanked Devenish and Boho for inviting everyone for a very enjoyable evening and a delicious supper.

Our annual MU Dinner combined with the choir was on Thursday 26th February in Garrison Church Hall after the service firstly in Garrison Parish Church. Doreen Earls will show slides and tell us about her tour of the USA in 2019. This will be a very interesting meeting and is open and welcome to anyone in the parish, men welcome too.

Christmas and New Year Message from Rev’d Canon Ngozi
I wish you and your household the blessings of God in the coming year 2020. A Big Thank You To: “Members of the Select Vestry” in all the Group Parishes for their immense contribution and working as Team during 2019. Thanks also to the following:-

• “Gospel West Choir and Organists” for your time in uplifting the worship in the parishes during Easter Tide, Harvest Thanksgiving and Christmas; Well done.
• To all who took the time to offer their talents in decorating the churches during Harvests and Christmas, thank you.
• To the Sunday School teachers; thank you and may God bless you in all that do for the Little Children.
• To those who have cleaned the church buildings, church grounds and the Rectory ground. (Grass cutting)
• To those who have worked hard for all the fund-raising activities.

May the Lord bless you in Jesus’ Name. Amen

Congratulations
Congratulations and best wishes to Robert Graham and Rachel Pearson who got engaged over the holiday period. We wish them God’s richest blessings as they make preparations for their married life together.

Confirmation Service
The Bishop of Clogher Right. Rev’d John McDowell will attend Belleek Parish Church on Sunday 29th March to confirm a number of our young people. The Rector is currently preparing the following candidates:- Avril Thompson, Glenn Brock, Sarah Johnston, Cameron Duffy and Clare Thompson. Please remember them in your prayers.

Social Media
Keep up to date with news for our Group of Parishes on www.belleek.clogher.anglican.org. The web manager is Jenna Earls. Photos & articles etc. for the website to be e-mailed to Doreen Earls at Social Networking: Follow us on Facebook using the name Garrison Group of Parishes. Simply ‘Like’ our page to receive updates on events.

Christian Burial
Mrs Mabel Caroline Allingham passed away in hospital on Sunday 5th January. The removal service was on Thursday evening 9th January and her funeral service took place in Killyclogher Parish Church on Friday 10th January. It was conducted by the Rector, Rev’d Canon Ngozi. The address was given by Rev Malcolm Ferry who is a Church of Ireland Rector in Portstewart and is married to Mrs Allingham’s niece and goddaughter, formerly Carol Acheson. Her granddaughter, Mrs Gillian Smith accompanied by her daughter, Mabel Smith travelled home from Australia and she gave the eulogy reflecting on her life and great character. Mabel, or Granny as she was fondly known would have been 100 years old had she lived to 12th July 2020. Our thoughts and prayers are with her immediate family Ivan, Eddie, Jim, Richard, and Liz. Also their wives, husband, grandchildren, great grandchildren and extended family. The Burial took place in Manorhamilton alongside her late husband.

Prayers
Our thoughts and prayers are with those from our group of parishes who have been in hospital or unwell in recent weeks. We remember especially Mary Gregg and Mrs Betty Cashmore.

The Dedication of a flower arrangement in memory of Mrs Gladys Thompson donated by her family.
Inishmacsaint

Vacant

In Charge: Canon Mark Watson (Rural Dean) or Archdeacon Brian Harper.

Pastoral Care: Canon Mark Watson (Rural Dean), Canon Ngozi Njoku and Miss Isobel Stewart (DPA)

Christmas services

Our Christmas services were all very well attended. Thanks to all who contributed in any way to making it such a success especially the choir led by Mrs Rutherford, our soloists and readers not forgetting our preachers Christmas Eve Mrs Isobel Nixon Christmas morning we were privileged to have our bishop McDowell our carol service was led by Mr Walter Pringle

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Mrs Evelyn Skuce on the death of her mother, Mrs Dorothy Hassard. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family at this sad time

Sunday School

The Sunday school would like to thank all who kindly donated items for their hamper this was going to children’s cancer centre a total of 5 hampers were put together well done to all involved

Baptism

December 29th Theodore Henry Malcolm Ferguson, son of Edmond and Debbie Ferguson. Revd Ferguson led the baptism service

Clothes collection

Once again this yearly event was well supported

Bag packing in Asda

Saturday 7th January - A big thank you to all who gave up their Saturday to help. A big thank you to Eddie and Laura Rogers for organising both events

Prayers

We continue to remember in our prayers any of our parishioners who are sick at home or in hospital in nursing or residential care housebound in any way.

Mothers’ Union

In November our members attended Visitors’ Night hosted by Devenish and Brougho Mothers’ Union in the Reade Hall, Monea. This was a most enjoyable evening when Mrs Laura Gallagher from ‘Yummy Mummy Cakes N Bakes’ demonstrated decorating a Christmas Cake and Christmas Cup Cakes, which she had previously baked. One of our members Eileen was fortunate to win the decorated Christmas Cake. A delicious supper, which was

thoroughly enjoyed by all, was served afterwards.

In December we had our Christmas Evening entitled ‘All kinds of Everything’. Our members took part in five activities under the umbrella of ‘General Wellbeing’. These included craft work with Helen under the heading ‘Creative Wellbeing’, arm chair exercises with Mary to promote ‘Physical Wellbeing’, a short quiz with Robena for ‘Intellectual Wellbeing’, a Beetle Drive with Eileen for ‘Emotional Wellbeing’ and a short epilogue also by Eileen for ‘Spiritual Wellbeing’

Many agreed this was an enjoyable and stimulating meeting. A seasonal supper concluded the evening.

In February we look forward to hearing from one of our most recent members, Mrs Olive Brownsmith, who will share her story of her move from her native home in Jamaica to Inishmacsaint, using the 2020 Mothers’ Union theme, ‘Building Hope and Confidence’.

Outing to Clare

Trip to Ennis, Co Clare, 22-25 May 2020. Cost £340 sharing for three nights bed and breakfast, three evening meals, meal on way home and all entrances paid. £60 single supplement. seats still available. Final payments by 10/03/2020. All welcome Thanks Robena Elliott.

Kilskeery and Trillick

Rector: Revd Philip Bryson

The Rectory, 130 Kilskeery Road, Trillick,
Co. Tyrone BT78 3RJ
T: 028 8956 1457
E: Kilskeery@clogher.anglican.org

How Will You Travel Through 2020

The shoreline of 2019 is fading into the distance and we are well and truly aboard and on our way through the journey that is 2020. None of us know what is ahead on this year’s travels - hour by hour let

alone by month but we are most assuredly committed to go, “As if we had any other choice”, you may say. “But how will we travel? The journey will be the same. The same unknowns will lie ahead. The same challenges and the same surprises but how will we decide to travel? That is, will we decide to face what is ahead with faith, hope, and love; with prayerfulness, a heart to demonstrate love for others and a desire to live obediently before God; with a passion to live life to the full, to set aside all that hinders and so easily entangles and to really run, this year, to travel through this year with joy and confidence in the One who desires to guide us into every good thing? Each day will come to us whether we are happy or sad – each day will last the same length of time – whether we are anxious or grumpy – each day will leave us – whether we’ve used it well or wasted it. The Apostle Paul declared that for him to live was Christ. Perhaps that is a challenge that we could step up to this year – to travel through the year as Christ would have. To ask for His vision in our circumstances – to seek His joy and love in our interactions with others – to understand and emulate His selfless giving of Himself in service of others – and to really join with Him in praying that great prayer that He taught His disciples, to the end that our lives would honour Him and that we would see His kingdom come upon His earth and His will be done in our midst as it is in heaven.

Baptisms

■ 15th December: Jack Keys, Christ Church, Trillick.
■ 29th December: Aidan Bleakley, Christ Church, Trillick.
12th January: Riley Mills, Christ Church, Trillick.

Weekly Programmes

Monday: G.B. - 6:30-7:30pm - Kilskeery Hall
Tuesday: Senior’s Luncheon Club - 12:30-2:30pm - Kilskeery Hall
Confirmation Class - 7:00-8:00pm - Kilskeery SS Rooms
Wednesday: B.B. - 7:00-8:00pm - Kilskeery Hall
Friday: Bowls - 8:00-9:00pm - Kilskeery Hall
**Dancerella**

The pantomime season got well underway in Lisbellaw Parish before Christmas when they staged their performance of “Dancerella,” a play written by Rector, Revd Stephanie Woods. The play was originally written by Revd Stephanie for pupils of Belleek Primary School when she was a teacher there and she re-wrote it to suit adult cast members from her parish. Originally organised to run over two nights in the Parish Centre, the tickets sold out so fast that a third night was added. Revd Stephanie said the play’s success was based on the talents of parishioners who took part. The choreography was arranged by Joan and Stephanie Wiggins and Tracey Kernoghan, who grew up in the Parish, directed the play.

The stage design was headed by Natasha Dane and Heather Humphreys with construction by Andrew Lynn. The cast included churchwardens, glebewardens, local people and local school schoolchildren with guest appearances from the Bishop of Clogher, Right Revd John McDowell, Jason Kilfedder, Principal of Lisbellaw Primary School and Ingrid Logan, recently retired Principal of Lisbellaw Primary school.
After the hymn, bible reading and prayers, Archdale Hall on Thursday 9th January. The first meeting of 2020 took place in the House in Ballinamallard where 27 members and friends enjoyed a lovely meal together. Afterwards they returned to The Steak of Magheracross Mothers’ Union visited the Wreath Festival in Killadeas Church. On Saturday 7th December members of Magheracross Mothers’ Union informed us before Christmas that she would be stepping down from her position in the New Year. Karen has been full-time organist for almost 17 years and has always been very dedicated and faithful in her service to the parish, not only playing Sunday by Sunday but also training and practising with the choir. Her decision therefore leaves a vacancy which we would very much like to fill as soon as possible. In the short-term Karen is still helping out and we are very grateful to her for that and also grateful to Letty Downey, Lindsey Lucy and Wendy Parkinson for offering to play on the other Sundays. However this is not a permanent solution so we would welcome all enquiries from anyone interested in filling the position. Please contact Revd. Capper on 028677 22413 or the Parish Office 028677 23977 for further details.

World Day of Prayer

The service this year has been prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe and will be held in our church on Friday 6th March at 8.00 p.m. The theme is “Rise! Take your mat and walk” and as we participate in this service we will be joining with people in 120 countries and islands around the world. We trust this will be well attended by our own parishioners as well as all the various denominations in the area.

Pantry Collection

This began at the beginning of January and will continue until the end of February. All non-perishable food items will be much appreciated.

Organist

Regrettably our organist, Karen McAlister informed us before Christmas that she was stepping down from her position. This service will be at 8:30pm. If you are thinking about something to do during Lent, it is worth remembering that you have an extra day this year – don’t waste it but do something useful.

Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday service on February 26th. This service will be at 8:30pm. If you are thinking about something to do during Lent, it is worth remembering that you have an extra day this year – don’t waste it but do something useful.

MOTHERS’ UNION

On Saturday 7th December members of Magheracross Mothers’ Union visited the Wreath Festival in Killadeas Church. Afterwards they returned to The Steak House in Ballinamallard where 27 members and friends enjoyed a lovely meal together. The first meeting of 2020 took place in the Archdale Hall on Thursday 9th January. After the hymn, bible reading and prayers, Norma introduced three members of Enniskillen Rotary Club - Angela McKinney, Kenny Fisher and Henry Robinson - who are all members of Magheracross Parish - to speak on their trip to Kenya last September. Each of them spoke and showed a presentation of the different aspects of their time there. The business part of the meeting then took place and the evening ended with the grace.

At the next meeting on Thursday 6th February we will welcome Mr Greg McMullan and the topic will be ‘Scamwise’.

Sidney Parkinson

After 20 years of faithful, diligent and exceptionally well-organised service, Sidney Parkinson has retired from his role as manager of Craghan Cemetery. Throughout those years, Sidney has maintained a detailed register, liaised with the undertakers and supported bereaved families. He has ensured that interments have been dignified and sensitive. For all of this, the parish is exceptionally grateful. Sidney has handed this responsibility over to Gordon Lee who possesses those similar skills of good administration and pastoral sensitivity.

SUNDAY 23rd

11.30 a.m. Founder’s Day Service (Collection for sponsored children)
ASH WEDNESDAY 26th

8.00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Christmas

Our traditional service of lessons and carols took place on 22nd December at 11.30 a.m. Thanks to our organist Karen and the members of the Silver band who along with the choir led the singing. Our readers this year were members of the Sunday School and all did an excellent job. An Advent wreath prepared by Sunday School leaders was placed in church on Advent Sunday and a candle lit each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Thank you to everyone who helped with all the preparations and especially those who decorated the church so beautifully.

SUNDAY 2nd

11.30 a.m. Holy Communion
SUNDAY 9th

11.30 a.m. Holy Communion
SUNDAY 16th

11.30 a.m. Morning Prayer
SUNDAY 23rd

11.30 a.m. Founder’s Day Service (Collection for sponsored children)
ASH WEDNESDAY 26th

8.00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Christmas

Our traditional service of lessons and carols took place on 22nd December at 11.30 a.m. Thanks to our organist Karen and the members of the Silver band who along with the choir led the singing. Our readers this year were members of the Sunday School and all did an excellent job. An Advent wreath prepared by Sunday School leaders was placed in church on Advent Sunday and a candle lit each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Thank you to everyone who helped with all the preparations and especially those who decorated the church so beautifully.
The Word And Thanks
At the time that this is being written, the busy Christmas period is over and we are all settling ourselves back into our normal routines. We want our normal routines to be established with a place for God at the centre; taking time daily to read His word. Joshua 1:8 “Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

We pray that our New Year Resolution to read the bible in a year or to spend X amount of time with God does not dilute the importance of being in His presence, of worshipping Him, praising Him and giving Him thanks for all the blessings He has given us. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Chronicles 16:34: “Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever.

Men’s Night At The Courthouse
“Where in the human body is your spleen?” was a question asked by Alan Crawford to 45 men in the Courthouse on Wednesday the 27th of November. This quiz question was part of a fun night of quizzes and practical challenges at the annual men’s Christmas party. The night included thought provoking testimonies, food from The Courthouse Cafe and an interesting brief history of how The Courthouse has developed over the years.

Ladies Night At The Fountain
On 15th November 2019, 50 ladies joined together in The Upper Room of The Fountain Centre. The event was organised and run by Fiona White-Harvey’s Life Group who provided a selection of curries followed by tea/coffee and doughnuts/cake. After the food, Fiona gave her very interesting testimony. The evening was full of banter and good craic with everyone

Mothers’ Union
The Mothers’ Union had a great evening out on 6th December 2019. They enjoyed a lovely meal at Mahon’s Hotel, Irvinestown.

Friends In The Afternoon
We joined together and were led by Canon Alan Irwin in our service of Holy Communion on 10th December 2019. We sang some songs and enjoyed a wonderful Christmas tea.

Ardess Little Lambs
Ardess Little Lambs had their Christmas Party on Monday 16th December 2019. There was lots of fun with games, singing and dancing followed by party food. The children were each given their ‘First Nativity Book’ as a gift.

Share Ardess
The Share Ardess team were delighted to be supported by some young members of the community, Caleb and Noah Spence, who prepared and donated a hamper each for the Christmas Share Ardess.

The Youth At Christmas
Children’s Church Christmas Party
On Saturday 14th December 2019, Ardess Children’s Church held our annual Christmas party for nursery and primary school age children. This was an extremely fun filled few hours of music, games and food. Activities were led by members of our children’s ministry team as well as some of our youth. A special thank you to all those who kindly brought additional food and refreshments,
We commenced our Christmas services tirelessly do this each year. Special thanks to Phil and Liz Crook who we have loved who are no longer with us). 100 poinsettias (in remembrance to those with an outstandingly beautiful display of again looked amazing for Christmas time. We are delighted that our church this year by John Bunyan, first published in 1678 the well-known Christian classic written earlier this year. The film is adapted from Progress’ which was shown in cinemas anticipated animated film ‘The Pilgrim’s Kesh. Youn... sits-out over the 12 hours and also to those who contributed so generously. It really was an enjoyable experience!!

**Services Delivery Assistant**

We are delighted to report the appointment of Mr. Alan Crawford to the position of Services Delivery Assistant commencing employment on Monday 6th January 2020. Whilst the title may suggest that he is assisting someone, in reality he is taking the reins to steer this increasingly busy local services delivery hub.

**Sit-Out**

A sit-out at the front of The Courthouse raised a very commendable £714.26 on 21st December. The proceeds were shared between Release International for the persecuted church and The Fountain Centre. Many thanks to those who helped with the sit-out over the 12 hours and also to those who contributed so generously. It really was an enjoyable experience!!

**Children’s Christmas Carol Service**

Our Children’s Christmas Carol Service took place on Sunday 15th December led by our young people. We give God all the glory for such a great turn out and also for the smooth running programme considering the great number of children taking part! The youth church narrated the ‘Nativity’ as our nursery and younger children played the parts in full costume. Additionally, our Christmas message was brought in the form of a drama called ‘All this Stuff’, in which a mother and her children stood around a Christmas tree considering the real meaning of Christmas, whilst encouraging the rest of the church family to do the same. The theme of family continued during a short talk from our Youth Leader, Shirley-Anne McCann. The morning was filled with songs old and new and finished with our children gathered at the front singing (and wishing all those present) ‘A Super Duper Christmas’. We thank The Lord for His wonderful presence throughout. We also would like to take this opportunity once again thank all those who lead and assist within our Children’s Church each week.

**Connect Youth Program**

Connect Youth Program finished the term on Sunday 15th December with a relaxed night of fellowship, chinese food and a movie in The Fountain Centre, Kesh. Young people watched the eagerly anticipated animated film ‘The Pilgrim’s Progress’ which was shown in cinemas earlier this year. The film is adapted from the well-known Christian classic written by John Bunyan, first published in 1678 and still provides its audience the basis for much discussion with the film being paused more than once! A great night was had by all. We thank the Lord for the wonderful opportunity to serve these young people throughout the year and the friendships and connections that have been made and strengthened. We look forward to another year serving Him in this way.

**Christmas Services**

We are delighted that our church this year again looked amazing for Christmas time with an outstandingly beautiful display of 100 poinsettias (in remembrance to those we have loved who are no longer with us). Special thanks to Phil and Liz Crook who tirelessly do this each year.

We commenced our Christmas services this year on 15th December ‘19 with the Children’s Christmas Carol Service and later in the afternoon there was singing and sharing the Christmas message at Mullaghfarne. On 22nd December, we had a lovely evening of Carols by Candlelight. On Christmas Eve, we had Holy Communion led by Canon Alan Irwin, where we came together to worship God and partake in midnight communion. We celebrated the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ on Christmas morning by giving thanks to God for the gift of His son and partaking in Holy Communion. This was also a significant service for another reason as this was Canon Harry Trimble’s last service and we wish him a wonderful retirement.

**Christmas Dinner**

We had 30 for Christmas dinner this year and also supplied 10 Christmas takeaway dinners. We started off with a non-alcoholic mulled wine as everyone gathered together and got to know each other. At 12.15pm Violet O’Riordan opened with grace and gave thanks to God for the food and fellowship which we were about to enjoy. Soup was served, crackers pulled, party hats put on and a few jokes told. This was then followed with the traditional turkey and ham Christmas dinner. Giving time for the dinner to settle, we sang Christmas carols with music and singing by Paddy and Violet O’Riordan and Helcon Jesalva (Elim Church, Omagh). We finished up with Christmas pudding/pavlova. Special mention to Christopher and Gemma Spence for their hard work helping with serving and doing the dishes and not forgetting to mention Glenn and Valerie Johnston and family for their input every year!

**The Courthouse, Kesh**

The Courthouse is a purpose-built social hub and cafe open from 10.00 - 16:00 Monday to Saturday. The Courthouse has a cafe, food-bank depot and a range of meeting rooms available for use by groups large or small. Please come along with your friends for tea/coffee a sandwich/wrap/panini, baked potato or sausage roll and of course you can also choose something a little sweeter - we have a lovely selection of delicious muffins, doughnuts and traybakes.

**A young volunteer with hampers he made along with his brother for Share Ardess.**
Dear Parishioners,

Epiphany, January 6, is the official end of the 12 days of Christmas. Many Christians celebrate this day by remembering the journey of the Magi or Wise Men. The Magi found their way to Jesus by following a bright heavenly body, usually represented by a star and bringing gifts. What gifts have we received, what gifts do we pursue this year in our journey of faith? We all need spiritual attention, we all are called in faith to improve as we make our way through life. The Wise men are remembered at the Epiphany with the reading of Matthew ch 2 verses 1-12 and the following Sunday we remember the Baptised by recalling the words of Christ's Baptism from Matthew's gospel chapter 3 verses 13-17. Both readings link Jesus identity. The Wise Men identify Jesus as a king... and because they are from foreigners, they identify Jesus as a king for all people. In the baptism gospel, Jesus is also identified, as the son of God. As a subject of this king on our faith journey we are called to pray and change from our old selves to become a new creation. We sometimes make new year's resolutions and, these fall flat after a few days but what about a faith spur, a faith to improve resolution. Scripture is not short of goals to allow the faithful to improve. What about a bit more Grace; Mercy; Love; Faithfulness; Peace; Patience; Kindness; Joy; Rest, Adventure; Attention; Imagination; Faith; Compassion; Friendship; Song; Generosity; Time; Humility; Persistence; Dedication; Inspiration; Comfort; and Wholeness. It is your journey with your God - and he calls us with the words. “This is my child with whom I am well pleased.”

Praise Service
The Praise service took place on 5 January at 8.00pm in Maguiresbridge church with the singing of favourite hymns.

Parish Auction
The select vestry held an auction to raise money toward the new hall kitchen.

Curtis Magee Dance
The annual parish dance in aid of the new hall kitchen will take place in the Maguiresbridge parish hall on the evening of 21 February from 9pm. Tickets are available from members of the Select Vestry.

Maguiresbridge Sunday School
The Sunday school in the parish is a great bonus to parochial life and on the third Sunday of Advent for example children of the Sunday School amounted to almost half the congregation and that wasn’t a designated Sunday school service. The teachers do a wonderful job, but we need additional especially male Sunday school teachers. Proper procedures will be followed for safe guarding trust and if needed training will be given. Please consider this request to assist this valuable ministry in the growth of parochial life.

Rogation Sunday May 17th: Tractor Sunday
Rogation Sunday is the day when the Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of farmers preparing for the harvest. It is the Sunday before Rogation Sunday is the day when the Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of farmers preparing for the harvest. It is the Sunday before
Christian Burial

It was with sadness we learned of the death of Cecil Finnegan on 1 December after a short illness. He was a regular attendee at Sunday Service while his health permitted. The esteem in which he and the family were held in the community was very much in evidence at his funeral service in St. Patrick’s Church on 4th December conducted by the Rector and afterwards at Coolshannagh Graveyard. We express prayerful sympathy to his wife Elsie and the wider family circle on their sad loss.

Mothers’ Union

The members held their annual Christmas Party in Rossmore Golf Club on Tuesday 4th December. This was a new venue and proved to be very successful. The first meeting of 2020 was held on Tuesday 7th January in the Church. This was the Branch’s AGM and 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

At the supper after the meeting, Mrs. Helen Stewart was congratulated on attaining a significant birthday.

Ladies’ Group

The Group met for their Christmas Party on Thursday 12th December in the Neighbourhood Restaurant, Glaslough Street, Monaghan. The venue proved to be very popular with a large number of members present and an enjoyable evening had by all. They will meet on Tuesday 18th February for a Tupperware Demonstration which is open to everyone and will be held in St. Patrick’s Hall.

Illness

Your prayers are requested for all those who are ill at this time, the housebound and those in residential care and their families.

Condolence

We express prayerful sympathy to Mrs. Amanda Hall and family on the death of her uncle and to Mrs Heather Stirrat and family on the death of her brother-in-law.

Ladies’ Group

Interdenominational Carol Service

This was held in St. Patrick’s Church on Tuesday 10th December. Mrs. Ruth McGowan welcomed the large congregation and expressed grateful thanks to all who had assisted with the arrangements and to the members who had provided the refreshments. The worship was led by the following choirs, Serenata, Model School, Monaghan, First Monaghan Presbyterian Church, Beech Hill School and Monaghan Community Brass band with a Solo by Aoibhinn Craven.

The proceedings in the Church were opened and concluded by Chancellor Ian Berry and refreshments of mulled wine, mince pies and shortbread in the Hall immediately after the service. The Chairperson and members are to be congratulated on a very successful evening. The offering was in aid of Monaghan Stroke Support Group and Cavan Monaghan Palliative Care.

Churches Together

The local Churches met at the Courthouse at 3pm on Christmas Eve to sing Carols followed by light refreshments in St. Patrick’s Hall.

Christmas Services

These commenced on Sunday 22nd December with a Group Carol Service. After the service a presentation was made to Mrs. Ruby Heasty in recognition of over 50 years playing the organ in Ballinode Church. 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.

Posada

This is an old Mexican tradition where the figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey were hosted in the homes of members to symbolise making room for Jesus in our lives, particularly at Christmas, but also throughout the year.

The presentation to Mrs Ruby Heasty.
A note from the Rector

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

February 2nd marks the completion of 40 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 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 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.

Lent 2020

We shall be holding our traditional Ash Wednesday service of Holy Communion at 8pm on 26th February. Details of weekly Lent services will be published in the weekly news sheet.

Thank You

Thank you to all who assisted with our Christmas Services especially, the Choir, Sunday School, lesson readers, decorators, and supper providers. We were especially grateful to Mrs Joan Nelson for playing the organ and preparing the choir for the Carol Service. We have contributed to a very memorable and enjoyable season of celebration of the birth of Christ. At the Sunday School Nativity play we presented Jonny and Janet Phenix with a small gift in appreciation of their wonderful work with the children and young people during Jonny’s time with us as Youth Officer. Jonny is returning to his diocesan duties and we thank them both for their dedication and commitment and wish them both every blessing for the future.

Your friend and Rector,
Revd Canon Dr IW Ellis

SERVICES for February 2020

Sunday 2nd February
9.00am. Holy Communion
11.00am. Holy Communion
7.00pm. Evening Prayer

Sunday 9th February
9.00am. Holy Communion
11.00am. Morning Prayer

Sunday 16th February
9.00am. Holy Communion
11.00am. Morning Prayer

Sunday 23rd February
9.00am. Holy Communion
11.00am. Family Service. (Founders’ Day Parade)

Visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Dublin

On 23rd November the Rector attended St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Dublin in his role as Canon of the Prebendary of Donaghmore representing the Diocese of Clogher for the special service to mark the 150th
anniversary of Disestablishment of the Church of Ireland. See the photograph of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin cutting an anniversary cake. Also, in the background, is the Rector!

**Lottie’s Birthday**

There was great excitement in the Parish and at The Graan Nursing Home on the 23rd November 2019 as we celebrated the 104th birthday of our oldest parishioner – Mrs Charlotte (Lottie) Johnston. She was in great form, a little less mobile but still enjoying all the fuss!

**100th birthday celebrations**

Bishop John called on 13th January past with Mrs Sarah Kingston to wish her many happy returns on her 100th birthday. The Bishop, Canon Bridle, the Rector and her son, Trevor joined with Sarah in a celebration of Holy Communion. Mrs Kingston is the widow of Revd George Kingston, who had been Rector of Swanlinbar Parish.

**Christmas Communion and Afternoon Tea in the Hall**

On 8th December at 3pm the annual Christmas Communion Service for the elderly / housebound was held in the Parish Hall. An even bigger crowd this year celebrated Communion with the Rector. This was followed by a wonderful spread of ‘Afternoon Tea’, kindly provided by Rossorry Mothers’ Union members. The chat and the fellowship went on for quite a while!

**‘Raising the Star’**

In keeping with the tradition of the last few years a team of hardy helpers assembled at Rossorry early in December, complete with a ‘Nifty Lift’, reels of cable, strings of lights, connectors etc and of course the Star. Two hours later and the Church, by night, was transformed into a magical sight, lighting the way through Advent to the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child, a beacon to the parish and the many travellers who pass by our Church.

**The Nativity Play**

The 22nd December was a day of excitement and trepidation for the children of Rossorry Parish Sunday School (and their teachers!) – it was the day to perform the Nativity Play in front of a packed Church – not a seat left in the whole place! As we have come to expect, we were treated to well-rehearsed, thoughtful and sincere telling of the Christmas story, complete with costumes and props. The children performed wonderfully well and made the occasion a memorable one for one and all.

Many thanks to the Sunday School teachers for their efforts.
Presentation
On Sunday 22nd December, the Rector and Avril Armstrong, Guide Leader, 1st Rossorry Guides made a presentation to Jonny and Janet Phenix in recognition of the end of Jonny’s two-year placement as part-time Youth Officer for the Parish and Janet’s voluntary support to his work and the parish organisations. They made a great commitment to the development of our youth ministry and we will be sorry to see the end of this phase - however, happily, they remain with us as parishioners and Jonny will continue his work as Clogher Diocesan Youth Officer.

Prayer Group
The Prayer group meets at the Parish office and continues throughout the year with meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

Feel free to come and join us - everybody is welcome. It is an informal group (nobody has to perform !!) which meets to pray for the parishioners, young and old, for the world, as well as other good intentions that arise. We finish with the fellowship of a cuppa and a chat.

Rossorry Mothers’ Union
The first meeting this year of Rossorry Mothers’ Union was on Thursday, 16 January 2020. Canon Ian Ellis administered Holy Communion to the members. Branch leader, Heather Ellis, then gave an illustrated talk about her charity trip to Kenya with the Rotary Club in September 2019 using the MU theme, “Building Hope and Confidence.” Our next meeting is on Thursday, 13th February at 8.00pm with a “2020 Noughty Party” to celebrate significant birthdays of its members. New members are welcome.

Wednesday Club News
The Club has been running now for 20 very successful years which have brought fellowship and fun to the older members of our parish. Congratulations to all who put the work into making this group the success that it is. The meetings of the Club are every Wednesday at 10.30 am, from September until June. Everyone is welcome - there is always room for new members. The Club went out for their annual Christmas lunch on Wednesday 11th December. This year the festivities were held in the beautiful surroundings of Belle Isle Estate.

A programme has been prepared of events / speakers up to May. See below right:

Jones Memorial Primary School Carol Service
On 19th December 2019 at 7pm Jones Memorial Primary School held their annual Carol Service in Rossorry Parish Church.

This is the second year of this event and it is proving very popular with parents, teachers, children and past pupils resulting in a large congregation for a lovely and meaningful service.

Scouts and Guides
Scouts and Guides are up and running again, for the new term. Keep in touch with the leaders on Facebook for details of events etc.

New members are most welcome and if you would like information contact one of the Leaders (details below);

Beavers -Tues 6.30pm.
Cubs – Wed 6.45pm.
Scouts – Wed 7.30pm or ring Garry Clarke on 02866 323653
Rainbows- Mon 6.15pm.
Brownies – Mon 6.15pm
Guides – Wed 8.00pm or ring April Armstrong on 02866 329589

Rainbows Coffee Morning
The Rainbows and Brownies held their

Rossorry Wednesdays Club Programme from January to May 2020

**January**
- 15th: Welcome back. Know your neighbors Bingo
- 22nd: Growing up in Tyrone
- 29th: How much sugar, in food, we eat today

**February**
- 5th: Make the call
- 12th: Paper Quilling
- 19th: Rotary Club Kenya Trip
- 26th: Talking News Paper

**March**
- 4th: Design a Bag
- 11th: Drink Wise Age Well
- 18th: Wool Shed
- 25th: Spring Gardening

**April**
- 1st: Magazine Folding Easter Tree
- 8th: Coffee in Moorings Restaurant
- 15th: Easter Holiday
- 22nd: Talk
- 29th: Living with Tinnitus

**May**
- 6th: Quiz Morning
- 13th: Summer Outing

If you want to know more give Ethel Oldcroft a ring at 02866 326339

The presentation to Jonny and Janet Phenix with Avril Armstrong (left) and Canon Ian Ellis.
Annual Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall on Sunday 1st December after the 11am service. A great number attended and raised £182.50p for the groups’ funds for the year. Many thanks to all who organised and supported this event.

**Mother and Baby Exercise Class**
Mother and Baby exercise class resumed on Tuesday 14th January 2020. This very successful Mother and Baby exercise class has been running now for two years at Rossorry Parish Hall on Tuesday mornings at 10am. This is very sociable class where mums bring baby along while getting fit while also meeting other mums. Please pm Jackie Cassidy (Facebook) to put your name down or if you want any further details.

**Arts & Crafts Classes**
Painting class meets Fridays at 2pm in the Parish Hall.
Weaving classes meet on Wednesdays at 10am in the Hall.
The classes are very popular – but there is always room for someone else - so be sure to speak to Yvonne Elliott on 02866 342514 for information.

**Bowling Club**
The Bowling Club meets on a Monday evening and occasionally on a Thursday in the Parish Hall at 8pm and continues now until the end of the season in March. If you are interested in getting involved, the Club is always looking for new members. For information: - contact William Stevenson on 07719662473.

**PARISH REGISTER**

**Bereavements**
Sadly, since the publication of the last magazine, two of our parishioners have passed away. The parishioners of Rossorry offer their most sincere condolences and prayers for the grieving families.

- **WILLIAMS, Violet of The Tilery Nursing Home and formerly Windmill Road, Enniskillen, after a short illness on 20th November 2019. Her Funeral Service was held in Rossorry Parish Church on 22nd November 2019 with interment at Breandrum Cemetery in the family plot.**

- **Mc FADDEN, Olive Rebecca, of Knockmoyle Nursing Home. Omagh and formerly Rossole Road, Enniskillen on 26th November 2019. Her Funeral Service was held in Rossorry Parish Church at 12 noon on 28th November 2019 followed by interment in Rossorry Churchyard.**

**Marriage**

**BROWN / DUNCAN**
On 30th December 2019 Sabrina Brown and Alastair Duncan from Enniskillen were married at Rossorry Parish Church. Canon Ellis officiated.
God’s blessing on their lives together in the future.

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.
before his death by his step-daughter, Hilary and husband, Edwin. We express our sympathy and prayers to them and the family circle including his two surviving sisters, Sadie and Winnie.

**Carol Services**

They were held on 22nd December in Clabby when the Carols were led by the choir and music group accompanied by Mrs. Ann Bloomfield. The lessons were read by young people and adults from the congregation. Zak Follis read a poem "The meaning of Christmas and young people led the prayers. Seasonal refreshments were served at the end of the service. In Tempo seasonal refreshments were served before the service. The Carols were led by the choir accompanied by Carole Graham. They joined with the Sunday School to sing come and “Praise the Lord our King” and “Away in a Manger.”

**February/March Diary**

- Tuesday 11th February Mothers’ Union, Clabby at 7 p.m. - Meal in the Lady Nelson

with spouses and friends.

- Every Thursday Afternoon - Fireside Fellowship 2p.m. 403 Tempo Road.
- Thursday 13th February - Table Quiz Tempo Church Hall 8 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- Sunday 9th February - SNATCH 7 p.m. 403 Tempo Road.
- Wednesday 26th February 8 p.m.- Ash Wednesday in Tempo Parish Church

**Who Is Jesus?**

From Mark Chapter 8 v 27-38 Jesus asked the disciples who people thought he was? They replied John the Baptist, Elijah or some of the prophets. The he challenged them to make a personal response. Peter replied “You are the Christ”. At this stage who do you say Jesus is, a great preacher, teacher, miracle worker, social worker, social reformer, only the only Saviour from our sins and the only means of our entrance to Heaven.

Jesus told them how he would suffer many things and he would be crucified and die but would rise again on the third day. He did this all for us. The passage finishes by his call to the crowds to the true meaning of real discipleship. “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. : the three qualifications needed to be a true disciple of Jesus. Jesus goes on to say that we must choose between this world’s goods and our eternal destiny, which is more important our souls and our permanent eternal destiny? “What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?”

**Social Work**

The children and adults in Tempo Parish who took part in the Carol Service.
Trory and Killadeas

Vacant
Services covered by Canon Billy Johnston
Revd John Woods, Rural Dean is in charge
with Mrs Sue Hogg, Diocesan Pastoral Assistant, assisting with pastoral care.

Trory
New Rector
Good news is always welcome. We have just been informed that the Revd Mark Gallagher, currently serving as curate of Bangor Abbey in the Diocese of Down has been elected as Incumbent of the Grouped Parishes of Trory and Killadeas by the Board of Nomination. The date and details of the Institution will be announced in due course. We look forward to the arrival of our new Rector. Two years of a vacancy makes one realise just how important it is to have a Shepherd for the Flock and the news coming on the weekend when Stormont got back to business. Who said prayers were never answered?

Church Services
Sunday services continue as normal 11.30am with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. Sunday School is now back in full swing. We hope they enjoyed their trip to Pollywogs Pottery.

Parish Records
Edith Fairbrother and Georgina Ferguson Our condolences to all the bereaved families including Bobby Lee on the death of his cousin. May the Lord be with you all in the days and weeks ahead.

Mothers’ Union
Next meeting will be on Monday 10th 8pm at Killadeas with guest speaker yet to be confirmed.

Tuesday Club
Members will meet again on the 11th

at 2.30 pm at Killadeas when it is planned to have their lunch outing.

Bowling Club
The club is back to normal on Thursday and Saturday evenings, new members are always welcome.

Keep Fit
This takes place every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm at Ballycassidy Parish Hall. The new season has seen an increase in attendance, so if you are interested in a fun evening of special exercises for Legs Tums and Bums, Allison will be delighted to see you and look after you.

The Rectory
It is intended to have an Open Day/Coffee Morning on Saturday 22nd February. The painters should soon be finished and although the interior may not be lacking a few floor coverings and trimmings etc. It will give you some idea as to how your money was put to use and everyone is more than welcome.

Killadeas
Events
At the beginning of the season of Advent we held our Festival of Wreaths. I would like to thank all who donated Wreaths and helped make this a real success, this year we had in excess of 120 wreathes. It was also great to have so many come along and share in this special event and enjoy the light refreshments provided and served by the ladies of the Parish. The money raised, which was just over £2,000, is to be divided between two local charities, Arc Heathy Living and Extern Roscor and Parish Funds. The event closed on the Sunday evening with a ‘Festival of Seasonal Music’ from the ‘Chamber Choir West’ conducted by Dr David Baxter and accompanied by Mr Glenn Moore. Again, thanks to them for coming along and providing us with a wonderful evening.

Parish Register
Deaths
Revd Gerard Philip Irvine, Killucon, Co. Westmeath, former Priest of St John the Evangelist, Sandymount, Dublin. The funeral service was held on 4th January 2020 at the Priory Church with burial afterwards in the adjoining graveyard.

Services
Church Services continue as normal at 10.00 am with Holy Communion on the first Sunday and light refreshments following the service on the third Sunday of each month. Sunday school continues with the Children departing to the Parish Hall during the morning service.

Scenes from the successful Wreath Festival in the Priory Church, Killadeas
February 2020

- Saturday 8th February – Table Quiz for Devenish Parish in the Reade Hall, Monea, at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.
- Sunday 9th February – Praise and Ministry Service at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity Parish Church when the speaker will be Revd Henry Blair, National Director of SOMA (Sharing of Ministries Abroad) in Ireland. Everyone welcome. Refreshments served.
- Sunday 9th February – Visit of Mothers’ Union All-Ireland President Mrs June Butler to St. Macartin’s Cathedral, Enniskillen, for morning service followed by Sunday Lunch in the Cathedral Hall for all Mothers’ Union members, families and friends (£15 for adults and children £5).
- Sunday 9th February – Commissioning Service for Clogher Diocesan Mothers’ Union Trustee Body in Colebrooke Parish Church at 3pm. Everyone is very welcome.

Mrs June Butler

March 2020

- Friday 6th March – World Prayer Day in Lisbellaw Parish Church at 8pm.
- Friday 6th March – World Day of Prayer in Holy Trinity Parish Church, Lisnaskea at 8pm with the theme, ‘Rise! Take your mat and walk’ and a form of service prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe.
- Saturday 7th March – Garvary Parish Church Auction in the Parish Hall at 1.30pm. Items to be auctioned include firewood, home bakes and general household items.
- Sunday 8th March – Favourite Hymns in St Mark’s Parish Church, Aghadrumsee at 3pm with Revd Olivia Downey.

Valley Singers and James and Naomi Parks. Plenty of opportunity to join in with the singing, and a good night is guaranteed. Tickets will be available from late January, or you can pay (£10) at the door on the evening.

- Saturday 29th February – Gospel Fest Goes West in the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh at 7.30pm with proceeds to Methodist Missionary Society (Ireland) to include Gospel Artistes Jenn Bostic from Nashville and local acts, Live Issue, Laura Dowey, Paul Silcock and Katie McGown. Tickets available from Strule Arts Centre or Reggie Mills.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
• Thursday 12th March – Fashion Show in Garvary Parish Church Hall at 7.30pm with fashions by KLASS. Tickets £10 including refreshments.

• Thursday 12th March – Mullaghy Flute Band Concert in Gransha Hall. More details later.

• Friday 13th March – Marching Bands Concert in Tempo Parish Church at 8pm featuring Church Hill Silver Band, Tempo Accordion Band, Derryclavin Pipe Band and Monaghan Fife and Drum Band. Admission £10 with proceeds to Tempo Church Funds.

• Sunday 15th March – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for submissions for the April edition.

• Friday 20th March – Gospel Concert in St. Mark’s Church, Newtownsaville, with guest artists, Revd Jean Mackeral and friends. Supper provided and everyone welcome.

• Sunday 22nd March – Friends of Clogher Cathedral annual Service of Thanksgiving and Fellowship will take place in Clogher Cathedral at 3pm as part of a Celebration of St. Macartan. Guest preacher is Revd Dr. Maurice Elliott, Director of the Church of Ireland Theological College. Everyone welcome.

• Tuesday 24th March – St. Macartan’s Day Lecture on St. Macartan’s Day by Bishop John McDowell on the Disestablishment of the Church of Ireland in Clogher Cathedral at 8pm. Everyone welcome. This event is part of the celebration of St. Macartan. Everyone welcome.

April 2020

• Thursday 2nd April – Gospel Concert in St. Ronan’s Church, Colebrooke with Revd Jean Mackeral.

• Wednesday 15th April – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for the May edition.

• Saturday 18th April – Galloon Parish Auction at 12 Noon in the Church Hall, High Street, Newtownbutler with part contents of two houses and at least 500 lots.

May 2020

• Thursday 7th - Saturday 9th May 2020 – 2020 General Synod in Croke Park Meetings and Events Centre.

• Sunday 10th May – Picnic at Rossmore Park, Monaghan following service in St. Mark’s Parish, Aghadrumsee for 200th anniversary year.

• Friday 15th May – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for submissions for the June edition.

• Sunday 17th May – Tractor Sunday on Rogation Sunday at Maguiresbridge and Derrybrusk churches when traditionally prayers are offered for God’s blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of farmers. Farmers from both parishes invited to come to church on their tractors to be parked in the field at the rectory.

• Friday 22nd - Monday 25th May 2020 – Inishmacsaient Mothers Union Trip to Ennis, Co. Clare. Cost £340 for three nights sharing, including Bed and Breakfast and three evening meals. Single supplement £60. Please contact Robena 02868641569 for further details.

June 2020

• Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th June 2020 – Wedding Dress Festival during final weekend of St Mark’s Parish, Aghadrumsee’s 200th anniversary year featuring a display of wedding dresses and christening gowns with a closing service on Sunday at 7pm with the Revd Canon Betty Thompson.

• Monday 15th June – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for submissions for the July/August edition.

August 2020

• Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th June 2020 – Wedding Dress Festival during final weekend of St Mark’s Parish, Aghadrumsee’s 200th anniversary year featuring a display of wedding dresses and christening gowns with a closing service on Sunday at 7pm with the Revd Canon Betty Thompson.

• Monday 15th June – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for submissions for the September edition.

September 2020

• Tuesday 15th September – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for submissions for the October edition.

October 2020

• Thursday 15th October – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for submissions for the November edition.

November 2020

• Sunday 15th November – Clogher Diocesan Magazine deadline for submissions for the December 2020/January 2021 edition
Clogher Diocesan Mothers’ Union marked the “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Against Women” with a Prayer Vigil, held in Garvary Parish Church on Tuesday 27 November.

The Rector, Canon Betty Thompson welcomed everyone. The Mothers’ Union Chaplain, Revd Charles Eames introduced the hymns and the organist was Diane Simpson. The opening prayers were read by Diocesan President, Irene Boyd.

The Bible Readings were read by Ann Rowley, Ivy Edwards, Freda Beacom and Freda Burleigh. Valerie McMorris introduced and welcomed the speaker, Mervyn Smyth from the Group ‘Ardstraw Against Trafficking.’ Mervyn gave a very interesting presentation, highlighting what is happening in our own area. Their group formed in 2013 to make people aware of human trafficking and to provide a voice for victims of human trafficking. Victims have no identity and have their passports taken from them. We were made aware that those involved in trafficking make a lot of money. In Northern Ireland £30million is spent on prostitution; victims can be as young as six months. Children can be born into slavery. He urged all present to contact Crimestoppers if they had any concerns about what was happening within their own area. The prayers of intercession were read by Barbara Mason, Kathleen Kettyles and Sadie Curran.

In conclusion, Irene Boyd thanked Mervyn for his presentation and highlighted the fact that Mothers’ Union care deeply for violence against women. The large amount of gifts brought to the meeting for Women’s Aid, showed that Mothers’ Union members are generous loving people. Irene encouraged the members to pray for change.

Dr. Margaret Knox thanked Mervyn and presented him with a gift. Rachel Gataora from Women’s Aid thanked the members present for all their generosity donating so many gifts to Women’s Aid. These items will be given to women, who have to leave their homes in a hurry.

Refreshments were served by members of Garvary Mothers’ Union.

**Dates for your Diary**

- **Sunday 9th February 3pm in Colebrooke Parish Church:** Commissioning Service for the Clogher Diocesan Mothers’ Union Trustee Body. Everyone is very welcome.

- **Saturday 22nd February 9am in St John’s Church Hall, Fivemiletown:** Mothers’ Union Prayer Breakfast. Speaker: June Butler (All Ireland MU President). Cost £10.
BIBLE STORIES IN BRAILLE

Eryn Kirkpatrick was born eight years ago as the first child of Evanna and Maurice but it was discovered she was blind. Despite specialist therapy and treatment in China, Eryn did not gain any sight. Throughout her short childhood she has been greatly supported by her family who spend many hours teaching her a wide vocabulary and encouraging her socially.

Her grandmother Violet, a faithful member of Colebrooke and Cooneen Mothers’ Union, has been a consistent help to Eryn. In autumn 2019, Eryn featured on the BBC Newsline programme, as someone who benefited from the Braille service provided by workers in Maghaberry Prison Braille Unit. A member of Colebrooke and Cooneen Mothers’ Union suggested to the Branch Leader to try and have Bible Story books printed in Braille.

‘The Nativity Story’ and ‘God’s Story For Me Bible’ were purchased in The Oasis Bookshop in Lisnaskea and sent to Darren at Maghaberry Prison Braille Unit. Darren and his team worked tirelessly to have the books written in Braille and ready for Eryn in time for Christmas.

At the morning service in Colebrooke Parish Church on 8 December, Mrs Irene Boyd, Branch Leader was invited by The Rector, Revd John McClenaghan, to present the six volumes of books. Eryn and her sisters Kayla and Ava had lit the Advent candle first and Eryn was surprised to receive the books. She read the title ‘The Nativity Story’ and said: “Thank you very much for the books and I might as well go home and start reading them.”

Mothers’ Union members send sincere thanks to the staff at Maghaberry for writing the books in Braille and giving Eryn an opportunity to read the Bible for herself. Mothers’ Union – fulfilling their aim of ‘Christian Care for Families’ and the themes for 2019 ‘Listen Observe Act in Step With God,’ and 2020 ‘Building Hope and Confidence.’

At the presentation of Bible story books.
Local branches keeping busy as they begin a new year

Branches in the Diocese have been up to different activities both before and after Christmas. There has been a craft evening with Jumping Clay, an evening with Mary’s Ark, the panto and various other events. The photos show Inishmacsaint members as Snowmen, Fintona members making beautiful ornaments for their trees and a panto trip and Fivemiletown members having a fun evening with animals.

BADGE WORK
All branches are working away on their Badge Work and preparing to start the All-Ireland Handcrafts and we have our Cookery Competition coming up in March.

DATES FOR YOUR GFS DIARY:
- All-Ireland Bible Projects - Completed for 7th February
- Cookery Competition - Saturday, 21st March 2020, in South West College, Enniskillen
- All-Ireland Handcraft - Completed for 27th March
- 17th - 19th April (During the Easter Holidays) - All Ireland Camp at Wilsons Hospital School
Booking Forms will be available shortly
After Jesus was baptised He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness for forty days where he was tempted by the devil.

*READ the story in *Luke 4:1-13*

**Mouse Makes**

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What was Jesus’ reply when the devil asked Him to turn a stone into bread?

Who did Jesus say He would only worship and serve?

What did Jesus say you must not do?

Can you find these words in the word search?

- JESUS  
- BAPTISED  
- RIVER  
- JORDAN  
- LED  
- HOLY SPIRIT  
- WILDERNESS  
- DESERT  
- TEMPTATIONS  
- DEVIL  
- FORTY  
- DAYS  
- HUNGRY  
- ROCK  
- STONE  
- BREAD  
- WRITTEN  
- SCRIPTURE  
- ALL  
- KINGDOMS  
- WORLD  
- GLORY  
- WORSHIP  
- SERVE  
- GOD  
- ONLY  
- JERUSALEM  
- TEMPLE  
- HIGH  
- IF  
- SON  
- JUMP  
- THROW  
- DOWN  
- ANGELS  
- HOLD  
- LIFT  
- FOOT  
- LORD  
- TEST

Feb20 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk
In the time before there were kings in Israel, there lived a rich man, Elkanah, and his two wives, Hannah and Peninnah.

Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.

Each year they travelled to Shiloh to worship God.

After the worship, they feasted.

Elkanah always gave Hannah a special portion of food to show he loved her.

But Hannah was too sad to eat. She left the meal and went to pray.

She prayed silently.

Please give me a son. If you do, he will serve you all his life.

Eli the priest saw Hannah's silent weeping and praying and thought she was drunk.

I'm not drunk! I was just pouring out how I feel to God.

I'm sure God will answer your prayer.

Back home, Hannah had a son, and she named him Samuel.

When Samuel was old enough, Hannah and Elkanah took him to Shiloh to live there and serve God.

She stayed at home with him when the rest of the family went to Shiloh.
“Do we just believe in Jesus or do we truly follow Him?” That was a key question put to our young people by the Revd Philip Bryson gathered for the launch of the Follow discipleship initiative. He went on to quote Luke 6:46 “Why do you call me, “Lord, Lord,” and do not do what I say?” The Rev’d Philip went on to inspire our young people to believe that God has created them to do great works as they believe what He has done for them and can do through them. To paint a picture for them, he took the calling of the early disciples in Matthew chapter four. Some of these fishermen by the Sea of Galilee could well have been teenagers too. Jesus himself was but 30 years and they called him Rabbi. He called them saying, “Come follow me” and they left their nets and followed Him immediately. They didn’t know what they were letting themselves in for! Equally we also don’t need to know everything today to follow Jesus. We just need to trust Him as these first young disciples did and as they journeyed with Jesus they learned from Him. We also will find answers as we walk with him as His disciples today. Can we leave our walk and follow Jesus today? “But what?” asked Philip “Will that mean?” A good start is to start reading our bibles, fellowshipping with other disciples and to start “stepping out of the boat” as Peter did in Matthew 14. This stepping out looks like stepping away from our old life and into a new life trusting Jesus. As Jesus said to Peter “come” so He offers to uphold us as we step towards Him on a journey of faith, trust and discipleship.

This challenging and encouraging message was the culmination of the Follow launch in Clogher Cathedral in November. Having been led in worship by the Inflame band and hearing this message our young people were given “Follow” embroidered backpacks. These small rucksacks contained a number of useful discipleship resources including; a “Follow Me” transforming and shaping lives for the journey book, an “Engage” connecting with God’s word daily study guide and a “Praying for Young People” booklet. To help our young disciples to remember their commitment to follow Jesus they were also given a WWJD (What Would Jesus Do) wrist band to wear.

From the start of the evening and an interactive game of “Rock-Paper-Scissors” for everyone to a supper of crisps and fizzy drinks this had been an opportunity for our young people to not only be inspired to follow Jesus but to also meet each other from across the whole diocese. Groups travelled with their leaders from as far away as Carrickmacross and as near Ballinamallard, Kesh, Clones, Dromore and Aghavea. It was particularly encouraging to see some clergy and rural deans attending the event. This is something which does not go unnoticed by our young people and their leaders which is very important in their connection to the wider church family. They left to begin their new walk following Jesus as individuals in parish groups and to connect at rural deanery and diocesan levels in 2020.

As a diocesan initiative Follow and all supporting materials are available to all our young people and leaders. The Youth Council have made discipleship resources available to youth ministry leaders for use with their groups as Follow members. These include the COI “iBelive”, “CY” Christianity Explored, “Participate” helping young people to find practical ways to follow Jesus and “Youth Alpha” discipleship resources. If you would like any further details about planned diocesan or rural deanery Follow events please contact Jonny Phenix the Diocesan Youth Officer, 07850881712 or dyo@clogher.anglican.org.
Clogher Diocesan Board of Religious Education invites children and young people to enter the following competitions. This year’s theme is:

**The Parables of Jesus**

During His earthly ministry Jesus frequently used parables to teach His listeners about the Kingdom of God. The competitions this year offer an opportunity for our children and young people to explore a number of these stories, identify the key messages contained in them and explore their relevance for their lives today.

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**Archdeacon Ruddell Prize**

1. Choose and list any six parables of Jesus that are recorded in the gospels. (Please include the Bible References)
2. Using illustrations to help, retell any three of these parables.
3. Explain what you think Jesus was teaching His listeners, including us, through each of these parables.

This competition is open to children of primary school age and can be either an individual or a group entry.

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**Bishop’s Medal**

1. Choose and list any ten parables of Jesus that are recorded in the gospels. (Please include the Bible References)
2. Retell and illustrate any five of these parables and identify the hidden message contained in each of them.
3. What relevance do you think each of these messages has to your life and to the lives of others today?
4. Why do you think Jesus used parables to teach people about God?

This competition is open to young people of secondary school age and must be an individual entry.

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Include relevant text, pictures, diagrams, photographs etc.

All entries must be original, the work of those entering.

Entries can be handwritten and/or hand drawn or use IT skills to help

All entries should please be left in the Diocesan Office by Wednesday 29th April 2020
New rector appointed to Grouped Parishes of Trory and Killadeas

A new rector has been appointed to the Grouped parishes of Trory and Killadeas in Clogher Diocese. The Revd Mark Gallagher, currently serving as curate of Bangor Abbey in the Diocese of Down, has been elected as incumbent of the Grouped parishes of Trory and Killadeas by a Board of Nomination. The parishes along the eastern shores of Lower Lough Erne have a combined total of 372 parishioners.

The Bishop of Clogher, the Right Revd John McDowell welcoming the appointment, said: “I need hardly say that I am delighted to welcome the Revd Mark Gallagher back into the Diocese, as the incumbent-elect of the Grouped Parishes of Trory and Killadeas. Mark served in the parish of Magheracross as a deacon and will bring his many gifts and enthusiasms to Clogher, now further enhanced by nearly three further years of pastoral experience under an excellent training rector (Canon Ronnie Nesbitt of Bangor Abbey).

“I know too that his new parishioners in Trory and Killadeas will be looking forward to welcoming the Revd Mark and helping him to settle into his new sphere of ministry.”

Following the announcement, Revd Gallagher said: “I am over the moon and although I will be sad to leave Bangor Abbey, I will be excited going to a place (Clogher Diocese) which feels like coming home.”

Revd Gallagher grew up in St. Andrew’s Parish, Killyman, outside Dungannon in Diocese of Armagh where he was involved in Sunday School teaching and youth fellowship as well as organist. He has a background in science, graduating from Queen’s University Belfast with a 2.1 BSc. Hon. Degree in Medicinal Chemistry and is an Associate Member of the Royal Society of Chemistry and has worked as a research and development chemist. He obtained his Professional Certificate in Ministry from St. John’s School of Mission, Nottingham before completing his training at the Church of Ireland Theological College, Dublin.

Revd Gallagher served numerous placements during his ministerial training including Kill O’ The Grange, Dublin; Southwark Cathedral and St. Hugh’s, Bermondsey, London and St. James Parish, Moy before his Deacon Internship in Magheracross Parish where he took part in many spheres of worship.

During his term as Curate Assistant in Bangor Abbey Parish which included Clandeboye Chapel and St. Columba’s Kilcooley, Revd Gallagher became proficient in various areas of ordained ministry, working with young people and helping to lead community initiatives, as well as working with the Scout movement and involved in outreach ministry.

During his curacy, Revd. Gallagher pursued a personal ministry passion, helping to resolve issues in the science/faith dialogue. His work in this area has been accredited and resulted in his membership of the Royal Society Chemistry and Society of Ordained Scientists.

He is a keen musician, playing the piano, organ, clarinet and saxophone to worship standard. He also sings at Grade B/Diploma standard.

In church settings, Revd. Gallagher has been cantor at Choral Evensong each month at Bangor Abbey as well as singing in the choir each Sunday, having also been guest vocalist at concerts.

Another of his interests is children’s party entertainer, as he is a balloon modeller. Revd. Gallagher describes his style of worship as ‘traditional with an occasional twist.’ He said: “The Prayer Book offers a wide variety of services and styles of worship, which come alive when led passionately and engaged with creatively. Vast musical, liturgical and symbolic resources are available and should be utilised. The style of worship is not as important to me as the quality of worship offered. In worship of almighty God, He deserves our best, and all in leadership responsibility must demonstrate this.

“My passion lies in community ministry and faith development. I believe there is a need for good relationships on a personal level between any cleric and the wider parish community. The threshold of the church building should be welcoming to all, and the congregation should feel empowered to share their faith with those around them.”

The date and details of the Institution will be announced in due course.

Special celebrations to mark St. Macartan’s Day

The patron saint who has given his name to the Cathedral Church of Clogher, St. Macartan, will be celebrated in a special way this year around St. Macartan’s Day on Tuesday, 24 March with a special service and address.

The celebration of St. Macartan will take place in Clogher Cathedral, on the site of the current Diocesan Cathedral which has been a place of worship since the 5th Century when St. Macartan, who was St. Patrick’s strong man and when he was appoint- ed the first Bishop of Clogher Diocese.

On St. Macartan’s Day, Tuesday, 24 March, the Bishop of Clogher, Right Revd John McDowell, will give a lecture on Disestablishment of the Church of Ireland.

However on Sunday, 22 March, the Friends of Clogher Cathedral will hold their annual Service of Thanksgiving and fellowship in the Cathedral when the guest preacher will be Revd Dr Maurice Elliott, Director of the Church of Ireland Theological Institute in Dublin. The site on the hill at Clogher where the Cathedral now stands, has been in continuous worship since the 5th Century. The Cathedral is at least the fifth building for worship on the site and was opened for worship in 1745 and this year marks 275 years. The See of Clogher was founded by St. Patrick who entrusted St Macartan as the first Bishop of Clogher.

The historic archives, graveyard and church building are special reasons for visits by so many people.

More details on St Macartan’s Day celebrations in the March issue of Clogher Diocesan Magazine.
MBE for Florence recognising her work in education

Mrs Florence Brunt, a member of St. John’s Parish Church, Fivemiletown, has been made an MBE in the New Year’s Honours for voluntary service to education and the community in the west. “I was taken back and couldn’t believe it. I’m very humbled receiving something like that. My family are thrilled to bits,” she said. After growing up in Lisbellaw parish, Florence’s career in education began with teaching in Belleek Primary School before moving to Brookeborough Primary School. She then took up an advisory role with the Western Education and Library Board. Florence later became a member of the Board representing the Department of Education and served there taking on the post of vice-Chairman of the Library Committee in her first term and then as Chairman. She later served as a transfer representative for the Church of Ireland until the WELB was dissolved and became the Education Authority. Over the years, Florence served on the Boards of Governors of numerous primary schools but significantly become Chairman of the Board at Enniskillen Collegiate for a long spell until the merger with Portora to become Enniskillen Royal Grammar School where she continues to serve on the board. Fivemiletown has been home to Florence for 52 years where she assisted her late husband, Robert with their business in the town. Robert died three years ago and her son, Andrew died less than a year later. She keeps busy with her family members; her son, Nicholas and two daughters, Lorraine and Angela and her daughter-in-law Joanne and eight grandchildren. Florence is a member of the choir in St. John’s Church and also a member of the Mothers’ Union. She is also a member of the progressive Fivemiletown Chamber of Commerce, being a former President and is a member of Fivemiletown W.I.

VACANCIES for CHURCH MUSICIANS

A number of parishes in the Diocese of Clogher are currently seeking to recruit musicians. Vacancies exist for organists, relief organists, choir directors, pianists, worship leaders, vocalists and instrumentalists. In addition to a range of positions being available across numerous parishes, the following key musical positions are currently vacant:

- ORGANIST and DIRECTOR OF MUSIC in Rossorry Parish Church, Enniskillen.
- ORGANIST in Lisnaskea Parish Church.
- ORGANIST / PIANIST / WORSHIP LEADER and MUSICIANS in Magheraculmoney Parish Church, Ardess, Kesh.
- MUSICIANS and CHORISTERS in St Macartin’s Cathedral, Enniskillen.
- ORGANIST in Coolbuck Church.

If you would like to express an interest in any of the above positions, or as a musician you are willing to contribute in the worship within a parish in the diocese, please contact Sabrina at the Diocesan Office for further details and to express an interest. Telephone 02866347879 option 1, email secretary@clogher.anglican.org or write to Clogher Diocesan Office, St Macartin’s Cathedral Hall, Hall’s Lane, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh BT74 7DR

BEM for airman Bill Eames

Mr Bill Eames (96), a former RAF Flight Lieutenant and Second World War veteran was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year’s Honours list for 2020 for his serves to the Royal Air Forces Association and community work in Fermanagh. Mr Eames has a connection with St. Macartin’s Cathedral, where he was baptised as his family attended there. He was a pupil at the Model School and Portora Royal School. Bill is President of the Co. Fermanagh Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association and takes part in the Wing’s Appeal collection every year. He continues share his experiences of WW2. In 1944, Bill towed gliders to Northern France from where troops secured Pegasus Bridge. Later in the same year, he took part in Operation Market Garden and the Allied attempt to secure the Rhine crossing at Arnhem. Following the War, Bill made a career in aviation, as an Air Traffic Controller at Belfast International Airport and also taught students to fly at the Ulster Flying Club, Newtownards.
Aghavea church re-opens for worship following £400,000 project

It’s been a year of change at Aghavea Parish, near Brookeborough. Rector, Revd Johnny McLoughlin and his team of parish volunteers have spearheaded a major renovation project on their church which has been standing on this site for over 200 years. The church closed in January 2019 to enable contractors get complete access to the church for the essential works which included a new roof and ceiling, taking away the existing suspended ceiling and revealing the original oak roof trusses which have been exposed once again. The exterior of the walls have been repointed in a breathable mortar while inside the walls have been replastered with a complete repainting carried out. The Parish have used these major works to rewire the entire building, incorporating a new sound system and the cabling and wiring to enable images and videos projected on the end wall rather than having to erect large screens. The projection equipment has been tastefully installed in the roof trusses. The entrance porch has been retiled in beautiful mosaic tiles while at the Chancel, old carpeting has been removed to reveal original mosaic tiles and sandstone floors from the original construction. Two new wheelchair bays have been installed within the pews and church furniture has been revarnished throughout. Revd McLoughlin said: “Our mission was to bring it back to where it started originally but modernised at the same time.” While the overall cost has been daunting, the parish has been thankful that the project has been completed within budget of around £400,000 and within the expected timeframe. The church re-opened on Sunday, 26 January with a baptismal service. The Aghavea site is steeped in archaeological treasures from the early Christian and Medieval period but the current congregation has ensured this beautiful place of worship remains well into the 21st Century.
The Church of Ireland Marriage Council exists to provide guidance to couples on the preparation of marriage, enrichment and support for married couples, and resourcing clergy and leaders who are involved in supporting couples. A new series of web pages has been launched on the Church of Ireland website, making it much easier to access useful information. These are found under the ‘Our Faith – How do I …’ section of the website. The direct website link is www.ireland.anglican.org/our–faith/how–do–i–/marriage

Here’s what you will find in this new–look section:

- Preparing for marriage – This page will provide explanation on the Church of Ireland’s teaching on marriage, practical guidance on preparing for your wedding day, including marriage preparation courses, and differences in legislation between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

- Enrichment and support for married life – This page provides contact details across Ireland of services available to couples needing support.

- Resourcing the wider Church – This page provides practical resources and materials for local ministers and others who are involved in the support of couples considering marriage or who are already married. Each material has been recommended and proven extremely useful in a number of parishes across Ireland. In addition, regular updates can be found at the Marriage Council Facebook page: www.facebook.com/towardsmarriageireland Should you wish to know more about the work of the Marriage Council, please contact Aisling Sheridan (email: Aisling.Sheridan@rcbdub.org)

In addition, regular updates can be found at the Marriage Council Facebook page: www.facebook.com/towardsmarriageireland Should you wish to know more about the work of the Marriage Council, please contact Aisling Sheridan (email: Aisling.Sheridan@rcbdub.org)

Look out for the Marriage Council’s posters in parishes in the coming months.
A special weekend of commemoration will take place at the beginning of May to mark VE Day. Victory in Europe Day takes place on 8 May 2020 to mark 75 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the war in Europe. Friday, 8 May will be the official Bank Holiday rather than the first Monday of the month.

Seventy-five years ago carnage and destruction had come to an end and millions of people took to the streets and pubs to celebrate peace, mourn their loved ones and to hope for the future, but not forgetting those still in conflict until 15th August when it was announced that Japan had surrendered unconditionally to the Allies, effectively ending World War II. The 75th anniversary will provide the United Kingdom and their friends around the world, with an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through this dark and terrifying period.

In Fermanagh, as the most westerly location in the UK to celebrate VE Day, Enniskillen Royal Grammar School, overlooking the Island town of Enniskillen will be the spectacular historic setting for local celebrations from 10am on Friday 8 May with free entertainment for all the family including outdoor adventure activities, musical performances, WW2 displays, Back to the 40’s exhibits and vehicles, Armed Forces and Cadets displays and much more continuing until 5pm.

In the afternoon at 2.55pm the Last Post and Reveille will be played in front of Enniskillen Royal Grammar School. This will also be a poignant tribute to the 456 young men from this school who served during WW2 including 50 who gave their lives for the freedom we all enjoy today.

At 3.00pm there will be;
- The piping of ‘Battles O’er’ and ‘VE Day 75’ by Massed Band
- A Nations Toast to the Heroes of WW2, with our WW2 veterans as special guests and led by Civic Representatives and Lieutenancy for Co. Fermanagh
- 206 (Ulster) Battery Royal Artillery will perform a gun salute in front of Enniskillen Royal Grammar School, overlooking the Island town of Enniskillen
- The bells of St. Macartin’s Cathedral will peal, just as they did exactly 75 years ago.

This will be followed by a tree planting ceremony in grounds of school by WW2 Veterans and a Massed Band performing a Beating Retreat at the School.

At 6.55pm schoolchildren will lead ‘Cry for Peace’ at St. Macartin’s Cathedral, followed by the ‘Ringing Out For Peace,’ the pealing of Bells at St. Macartin’s Cathedral before the Service of Thanksgiving takes place in St. Michael’s Church.

At 8.30pm a massed band with over 100 pipers, drummers and silver band musicians from throughout Fermanagh will play a selection of music on Church Street as the congregation leave St. Macartin’s Castle for ‘Beating Retreat’ at Sunset and the playing of ‘Battles O’er’.

Enniskillen Cathedral will be central to VE anniversary events

JOIN US, ORGANISE AN EVENT FOR VE DAY 75.

This year’s charity sit-out by Archdeacon Brian Harper of Magheracross Parish Church and Revd John Beacom from Ballinamallard Methodist Church, raised more than £6,700. The two clerics took part in a 12-hour sit-out at Main Street, Ballinamallard on 19 December and received great support from local businesses and passersby.

As a result of the event, which raised a total of £6,769.12, they sent £4,069.12 to the Prostate Cancer UK charity and £2,700 to Ballinamallard Churches’ Youth Ministry Fund (joint project of Ballinamallard Methodist Church and Magheracross Parish).
Could St Patrick’s Church have inspired Bram Stoker’s Dracula?

A theory that the inspiration for the novel, Dracula published in the 1890’s may have come from St. Patrick’s Church of Ireland, Monaghan, has been revealed. The BBC has broadcast the latest adaptation. Bram Stoker, whose gothic novel was published in 1897, was an Irishman and Dracula fans have long sought connections to the vampire in the author’s homeland.

One connection which is now being considered is that of St Patrick’s Church of Ireland Church in Monaghan town.

Lucy Westenra, as Dracula’s beautiful teenage victim is one of the central characters in the novel.

Westenra is certainly an unusual name but it is the name of the local landowning family, also known as the Rossmores. The family gave its name to the hotel which stands in Monaghan town centre.

In St Patrick’s Church a memorial sculpture portraying the deathbed of a young woman known as The Parting Glance, in which the woman’s distraught husband has to be restrained by a friend, may have inspired Bram Stoker.

The sculpture was dedicated to Mary Ann Westenra by her grieving husband, Lord Warner William Westenra.

Stoker was an Inspector of Petty Sessions before he became a novelist and it is thought he would have visited Monaghan in the course of his work and may have entered the church during one of his visits to the town.

The Dracula connection is now being hailed as a great move for Monaghan tourism.

Poverty conference to look at impact on communities

The Fermanagh and Omagh Community Planning Partnership is hosting the NI Poverty Conference on Monday 24 February at 10am in the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh.

This One-day Conference on poverty is a catalyst for change as it creates a safe space for well-informed, honest discussion aimed at informing local action.

The conference theme focuses on nurturing rich social capital in the Fermanagh and Omagh District and encouraging collaborative practice. Keynote speakers will discuss the impact of the welfare reform and a culture of debt which is on the rise. This year will be the first of its kind in our district. Together, we’ll look how ‘Poverty’ impacts our work and the community. The conference will examine regional approaches that impact poverty whilst highlighting local issues and experiences. The Poverty Conference targets all of Northern Ireland community leaders, practitioners, professionals, educators, advocates and political representatives. For members of the public the event will be recorded and promoted on a range of social media platforms to view. Keynote speakers include representatives from organisations including Advice NI, Trussell Trust, Children in Northern Ireland, University of Ulster, Fermanagh Trust, Department for Communities, Department for Education and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

Book tickets here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-struggle-is-real-living-on-the-poverty-line-tickets88646037685

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HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE TRAINED IN CHILD SAFEGUARDING

By the end of 2019, the diocesan support team trained 344 people in child safeguarding trust. This is a large number of people to be trained within the diocese and the training team would like to thank everyone who took part in the training evenings. Following feedback from the training sessions, a new webpage has been added to the homepage of the diocesan website and contains important links relevant to the implementation of Safeguarding Trust and the General Data Protection Regulations. Please contact the co-ordinator for any future training events.

Parish panel evaluations have taken place with three parishes with a further eight parishes to be visited in the next quarter. We would like to thank all panel members and incumbents who met with the evaluators to assist them in carrying out this important function of safeguarding our children. As we have just entered into a new year, all parishes will be closing their accounts for 2019 and will be in the process of preparing end of year accounts and annual reports for Easter vestry. Many parishes continue to include the names and amounts of those who contribute to parish funds in their annual reports. This practice can continue, however it is important that the appropriate consent has been obtained from contributors to have this information published in the parish report otherwise this is contravention of the General Data Protection Regulations. If anyone needs any advice or guidance then please contact Michael Skuce (cloghersafeguarding@gmail.com) or phone 07764638355.

ANGLICAN COMMUNION NEWS

A Big Hello for those attending Lambeth

Anglican Parishes and dioceses across England, Wales and Scotland are gearing up to welcome more than 1,000 Anglican bishops and spouses from across the globe in July 2020. The delegates, who will be attending the 15th Lambeth Conference in Canterbury, hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, will travel from over 165 countries from across the Communion. The event provides an opportunity to build relationships and create new ones, not just between bishops and spouses, but between churches, dioceses, communities and countries across the world. And the Lambeth Conference Company is helping coordinate the special welcome called ‘The Big Hello’ - that will be rolled out from churches. According to Phil George, Lambeth Conference Company CEO, the conference is a once-a-decade international event for which the hospitality is really important.

He said: ‘Our prayer is that it creates a chance to say ‘a big hello’ to one another and learn from cultures and traditions in other settings.’ The Big Hello will connect attendees to their companion link diocese or provide the opportunity for new ones to be started. So far over 84% of bishops and spouses booked into the conference are taking part. Following the hospitality period from 15 – 22 July, the host diocese will transport delegates to Canterbury for the start of the Lambeth Conference which will run from 23 July to 2 August 2020. Churches and dioceses hosting or sending bishops to the Lambeth Conference, can find out more about the initiative on the Lambeth Conference website.

New Archbishop of York is announced

The Church of England’s next Archbishop of York is to be the Bishop of Chelmsford, Stephen Cottrell, who will succeed Dr John Sentamu following his retirement in June 2020. Bishop Cottrell, who is a renowned preacher, author and communicator, will become the 98th Archbishop of York in a line dating back to St Paulinus in 627 AD.

As Primate of England and Metropolitan of the Province of York the Archbishop designate will share in the leadership of the Church of England in partnership with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. Stephen Cottrell’s appointment was welcomed by both the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Justin Welby said: “He is someone who radiates the joy and love of Jesus, making his hearers want to meet and know Christ better. He has been a Bishop for 15 years, and wherever he has gone he has spread the love of God, leading churches to be more confident in what they believe and more passionate in what they do for their communities.”

Dr Sentamu said Bishop Stephen's nomination as his successor had "gladdened my heart". He said: “Bishop Stephen Cottrell has the Gospel in his belly and a tiger in the tank! I am glad he is returning to the Northern Province.” Stephen Cottrell is married to Rebecca, who is a potter, and they have three sons.
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