



PARISH INFORMATION NEWS SHEET

Parish of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy
with Calary

DECEMBER 2013

JANUARY 2014



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Parish Websites:
www.newcastleparish.org
www.newtownmountkennedyparish.org
www.calaryparish.org





From the Rector's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

I have just been reading horrific statistics about the state of our world and the way millions of people are forced to live. E.g. Almost 70 million school age children are not in school. Malaria kills a child every 45 seconds. The combined wealth of the poorest 2.5 billion people is one trillion dollars while the combined wealth of the world's richest 225 people is also one trillion dollars.

These are frightening facts and contrast sharply with our idea of how to celebrate Christmas in this part of the world. We are indeed living in a very privileged country where we do not have to cope with many of the extremes endured by billions of people who live on this planet.

The message of Christmas is still as it was foretold by the prophet of old - "He came to lift the lame, give sight to the blind, heal the broken-hearted, to set the captives free". We have a part in this ministry. The challenge is enormous but as we each do our bit we can be assured that that bit will have positive effect on many people.

The situation in many parts of the world, like Syria, Egypt, the Philippines and numerous other places, where people are starving, dying from disease and in general suffering from the poverty which grips billions of people is horrific.

Your gifts and prayers can help greatly and the way parishioners have always responded to the various crisis appeals has been humbling.

I look forward to welcoming you to some of the events and services during December and over the Christmas period. In doing so I want to say a very sincere thanks to all who sacrifice their time and talent in the service of our parish and for God. Names are too numerous to mention but I hope you will all take this as a genuine thanks for your support, encouragement and partnership in God's work through our parish.

May you have the peace of 'The Prince of Peace' as you celebrate Christmas and know his love during 2014.

William



I bring you glad tidings of great joy
which shall be to all people!

Baptisms at Newcastle

17th November, Lily Violet Webster, daughter of Robert and Sinead, Mullinaveiuge, Roundwood.

17th. November, Holly Elizabeth McElwain, daughter of Matthew and Lorraine, Ballinahinch House, Newtownmountkennedy.

Congratulations to both sets of parents we hope these babies will bring real joy to their homes and grow up to fulfil the promises made for them at baptism.

Coffee in the Cottage

Drop in for coffee in the cottage any Tuesday from 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to stay ten minutes or all morning. Tea, coffee, toast, cake and chat.

No coffee on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve. Looking forward to catching up on all the news when the cottage will open again for coffee on Tuesday 7th January.

'The Book Launch'

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the drama group's performance of 'The Book Launch'. Hopefully everyone had a lot of fun whether on or off stage. A total of €1505 was raised for parish funds.

Christmas Lunch at the Cottage

Our very special annual Christmas Lunch will take place on Thursday 19th December from 12.45pm.



Booking is essential as space becomes very limited for this one. Allow more time than usual - the festive craic is not to be missed.

.January Lunch at the Cottage

Join us for the first lunch of 2014 in the cottage on Thursday 16th January from 12.45pm. Cost as usual is €10 and don't forget to book with Karen.

Cottage Christmas Outing

The Christmas outing from the cottage will take place on Tuesday 10th December. We will be heading for



Grafton Street to do some Christmas shopping, have some festive refreshments, see the Christmas lights and soak up the yuletide atmosphere. The minibus will leave from the cottage at 11am and we hope to return by 5pm. There may even be the odd surprise. Book with Karen.

Cake Sale for Christmas

There will be a cake sale in Rectory cottage on Friday 6th from 1 - 3pm, and then again on Saturday 7th from 2 - 4pm. Come and buy all your edible Christmas requirements and enjoy a cup of coffee while you are shopping.



Carol Singing

Please join us for Family and Friends Carol Singing around Newcastle village on Wednesday 11th December in aid of Tiglin Centre in Ashford. We'll be meeting at the Christmas tree and after we'll warm up with hot chocolate and cookies! Contact Gillian for further details - (086-8586629)



Newcastle Hospital Carols

We will be Carol Singing at the hospital on Sunday 15th December at 3pm. Let's see a good turnout of parishioners at this annual event, helping to put a smile on the faces of the patients.. (Not suitable for children)

Confirmation Classes

Last confirmation class before Christmas is on Sunday 8th December. Starting up again on January 12th.

Breakfast in the Cottage

Pop in to the cottage for breakfast from 8.40am on the morning of school assembly in the church.

From the Treasurer

If anyone, who isn't currently using free will offering envelopes and would like them for 2014, please let me know; also if any of you don't require them any longer or would prefer to make a standing order to the Parish account please would you let me know as soon as possible. It helps the Parish finances considerably if as many people as possible contribute through the envelope and/or Sustentation schemes, as the Parish can claim tax back from the Revenue from all parishioners who contribute €250 or more per annum.

Also, if there are any Sustentation envelopes outstanding I would be grateful to receive them as soon as possible before the end of the year.

Andy Sleeman

Clubs and Organisations

Parish Choir

One of the most popular and creative contemporary composers, Sir John Tavener, died aged only 69, on November 12th after several years of illness. He will be sorely missed. His music reflected a deep spirituality influenced by the Orthodox Christian tradition, to which he was a convert. Music such as “The Protecting Veil” written for Steven Isserlis, for solo cello and strings and “Song for Athene”, sung at the funeral service of Princess Diana became instant hits. We have enjoyed singing some of his music. We sang “The Lamb”, at the Flower festival in 2011, and his 1999 “The Lord’s Prayer” at the St. Matthew’s 175th anniversary service last year. We will sing another of his well known carols “Today the Virgin” at the carol service on Friday December 20th.

On advent Sunday we will sing “A tender shoot” by Otto Goldschmidt and again at the Carol service. Goldschmidt (1829-1907) was a German Jewish composer, conductor and pianist who married the famous soprano Jenny Lind. He became an Episcopalian to please his wife and for that we have this

beautiful Advent piece. On Christmas Eve we will sing the Gloria and Sanctus from Franz Schubert’s German Mass and the Agnus Dei in F by William Harris, whose anthem “Holy is the true light” we sang twice during November, as well as a Ukrainian carol “Wondrous news is given” arranged by Kyrylo Stetsenko.

As we look forward to Advent and Christmas, I would like to thank all the choir for their hard work and commitment this term in preparation of the music. It has also been a pleasure to have Ben Russell singing with us this term, as well as his Mum Marjorie and sister Ellie. We wish him well in his career as he goes to sing at the Wiesbaden Opera in the New Year.

Andy Sleeman

Junior Choir

The Junior Choir will be performing at the Nativity Play in Newcastle Church on Sunday 22nd December. Rehearsals will take place immediately after school on Wednesdays.

Many thanks to Joan Dempsey for giving her time to train the choir. New members welcome to join at any time.

Parents and Toddlers

The Parents and Toddlers Christmas party takes place in the cottage on 16th December at the usual time.
Re-opening on Monday 6th January.

Sunday School

Sunday School will be held on Sunday 1st & 8th this month.

We are holding a Christmas Party on Saturday 14th December for all children who regularly attend Sunday School. Invitations have been sent home with your child / children over the last week or so and if you haven't already returned your tear off permission slip please do so asap so we can get an idea of numbers.

The children will be performing, 'The Great Manger Mystery' an alternative take on the Nativity on Sunday 22nd December. All performers will be needed to attend a quick run through after Church on Sunday 8th December, this will be the only rehearsal in the Church! A reminder slip will be sent home with the performers on Sunday 1st December.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all the children and their families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. A very

special thank you to all the wonderful ladies who help out every class, I couldn't do it without you, I hope you all enjoy the break and come back ready to go in January.

Looking forward to seeing you all back on Sunday 12th January.

Karen Kissane

Creche

The crèche in Rectory Cottage will be open as usual during morning service in Newcastle Church on the first three Sundays in December. No crèche will operate on the 22nd or 29th December but the cottage will be open should any parents want to take their children out of church. The crèche re-opens on 5th January.

Bible Book Club

The Bible Book club will meet on Tuesday 10th December and then take a break for Christmas. We will resume our reading on 14th January so plenty of time to catch up over Christmas if you have fallen behind!

Time Out

The last meeting of Time Out before Christmas will be on Tuesday 17th December. Meeting again in the New Year on 7th January.

Bowls

The bowls club is busy each Thursday evening with both mats in play. The A team are doing well in their matches but we will draw a veil over the results of the B team to date. Enthusiasm predominates over skill at present but at least more people are getting the chance to gain experience.

The last evening before Christmas will be on 19th. December, returning after the break on 2nd. January. B team members are reminded that they have a match on 8th. Jan. and should make every effort to freshen up their game after all the Christmas 'goodies'.

Table Tennis

The club is now playing in the Community Centre on Monday nights from 8.30—11pm until the new parish centre is completed. The last meeting before Christmas will be on 16th December and the first one of the New Year will be on 6th January.



Junior Table Tennis

Due to the fact that a large number of members are currently involved in revision for exams, the club will take a break for the months of December and January.

Youth Club

Friday 6th December

Friday 3rd January

Friday 15th January

8pm in Rectory Cottage

CALARY NEWS

Carol Service

The Calary Carol Service will take place at 7pm on Sunday 22 December and will be followed by tea and mince pies in the Church Room. All of our friends and neighbours are welcome.

Special Communion and Lunch

By popular demand, the date of the special communion service has been changed to Wednesday 11th December at 11.30. All are welcome but especially all those who find it difficult to come to our services. Lifts can be arranged. So we hope you will take advantage of this chance to join us and meet with 'old' friends again. This will be followed by lunch with a festive flavour.

Choral Tribute to Angela

There will be a Choral Tribute to the very popular Angela Donnelly, who ran the post office in Kilmacanogue and passed away recently. It will be held in St Mochonog's Church, Kilmacanogue at 7.30pm on Friday 29 November.

Life Beyond Addiction

The Unity Gospel Choir, directed by Neville Cox, will hold a concert at 8pm on Friday 29 November

at Hillside Evangelical Church, Greystones in aid of the Tiglin Centre in Ashford. Tickets are €12 for adults, €5 for children, €10 for concessions and may be booked through Tiglin (0404 40010) or Mervyn Storey (087 7632924 or mastorey@eircom.net)

Parish Supper

A Parish Supper will be held in the Church Room on Friday 31 January. Further details will be available shortly.

Table Tennis

This takes place every Thursday at 8pm in the Church Room. All experienced players and newcomers are welcome.

Crèche and Sunday School

Sunday School continues every Sunday in the Church Room, apart from when there is a Family Service.

Baptism at Calary

27 October, Senan James Fox, son of James and Carla, Upper Calary, Kilmacanogue, Bray, Co Wicklow. Congratulations to James and Carla. We hope Senan will grow up to fulfil the promises made for him at baptism and bring lots of happiness to his family,

Look out for your Neighbours!!

Winter has truly started with the first sting of cold weather and piercing winds. Forecasters suggest that we should expect a white Christmas and a few weeks of colder than usual weather. Drop in to your elderly neighbours or those who might be alone or isolated. Pick up the phone and say hello. Each year we read of the sad cases that could have been avoided if neighbours had been a little more attentive. *WB*



PHONES FOR CRUMLIN

Collection of old mobile phones, iPods,
digital cameras and print cartridges

In aid of Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin

Collection boxes available in each of the churches

Ideal place to dispose of your old phone
when you get a new one for Christmas

More information from Linda Shannon and Pamela Roe



Bishops' Appeal Philippines Update

Bishops' Appeal is greatly encouraged by the response to the disaster in the Philippines by Church of Ireland parishes and individuals alike. Donations will continue to be collected in the coming weeks for immediate needs such as shelter, (tents and tarpaulin) food (rice, mung beans and salt), water (and water purification tablets) and hygiene kits (to prevent the further spread of disease). Once survival needs have been met, later funds will also be directed towards rebuilding homes and trauma counselling.

Although the number of people affected changes daily due to the destruction of communication channels and infrastructure, currently nearly one million people are homeless and 2.5 million people are in desperate need of food as livelihoods such as crops and boats for fishing were completely destroyed. A further 9.5 million have been affected with loss of water supplies, damaged properties and loss of loved ones.

Initial funds have been released through Christian Aid. Subsequent donations will be split between Christian Aid and Tearfund to expand the geographical areas and partners through which relief is being disseminated. Christian Aid's main focus areas are Iloilo and Baybay whilst Tearfund's main focus area is Samar.

Please continue to pray: For communities who have yet to be reached; For those destitute and traumatized; For the relief efforts to happen swiftly and to reach those most in need.

Please send donations to: Bishops' Appeal (Philippines) Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6

Parish of Newcastle & Newtownmountkennedy Select Vestry

Next Meeting

Thursday 9th January at 8pm in the McLean Room

Please send any items for inclusion in February PINS to:
information.pins@gmail.com

Items must be received by MONDAY 20th January for publication

Did I read that sign right?

TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW



In a Laundromat:

AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

In a London department store:

BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS

In an office:

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN

In an office:

AFTER TEA BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD

Outside a second hand shop:

WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in health food shop window:

CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

Spotted in a safari park:(I sure hope so)

ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR

Seen during a conference:

FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE 1ST FLOOR

Notice in a farmer's field:

THE FARMER ALLOWS WALKERS TO CROSS THE FIELD FOR FREE, BUT THE BULL CHARGES.

(With thanks to Brian Harris)



Holy Land Tour

26th March to 5th April 2014

**Led by
Rev. William Bennett**

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus throughout Jerusalem and Nazareth, climb up to Mount Sinai and visit the living history of Caesarea and Masada.

Sail on the Sea of Galilee, float in the Dead Sea, relax by the Red Sea, spend your last night by the shores of the Mediterranean.

**Information from William at
bennettwilliam1@gmail.com
or phone 087 9480317**

Children's Page



Find The Differences!



SERVICES IN JANUARY

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
Sunday 5 th	Calary	9.30	WB	HC	<i>Is. 60:1-6</i> <i>Ep. 3:1-12</i> <i>Matt. 2:1-12</i>
	Newcastle	12.00	WB	HC	
	St Matthew's	18.30	WB	EP	
Sunday 12 th	Calary	9.30	MC	MP	<i>Is. 42:1-9</i> <i>Acts 10:34-43</i> <i>Matt. 3:13-17</i>
	St Matthew's	10.45	MC	MP	
	Newcastle	12.00	MC	MP	
Sunday 19 th	Calary	9.30	WB	FS	<i>1Cor. 1:1-9</i> <i>John 1:29-42</i>
	Newcastle	12.00	WB	FS	
	St Matthew's	18.30	WB	HC	
Sunday 26 th	Calary	9.30	CT	MP	<i>1 Cor. 1:10-18</i> <i>Matt. 4:12-23</i>
	St Matthew's	10.45	CT	MP	
	Newcastle	12.00	CT	MP	



Holy Communion is celebrated every Wednesday, with prayer for the sick, at 10.30am in St Matthew's, followed by a cup of tea / coffee in the McLean Room. All welcome!



SERVICES IN DECEMBER

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
Advent Sunday 1st	Calary	9.30	WB	HC	<i>Rom. 13:11-14 Matt. 24:36-44</i>
	Newcastle SS	12.00	WB	HC	
	St Matthew's	18.30	WB	EP	
Sunday 8th	Calary	9.30	MC	MP	<i>Rom. 15:1-13 Matt. 3:1-12</i>
	St Matthew's	10.45	MC	MP	
	Newcastle SS	12.00	WB	MP + Baptism	
Sunday 15th	Calary	9.30	CT	MP	<i>Is. 35 James 5:7-10 Matt. 11:2-11</i>
	Newcastle	12.00	CT	MP	
	Hospital	15.00	WB	Carol Singing	
	St Matthew's	18.30	WB	HC	
Friday 20th	Newcastle	20.00	WB	Carol Service	
Sunday 22nd	St Matthew's	10.45	WB	MP	<i>Is. 7:10-16 Rom. 1:1-7 Matt. 1:18-25</i>
	Newcastle	12.00	WB	Nativity Play	
	Calary	19.00	WB	Carol Service	
Xmas Eve	Newcastle	23.30	WB	HC	
Xmas Day	Calary	9.30	WB	HC	
	St Matthew's	10.45	WB	HC	
	Newcastle	12.00	WB	Family Xmas Praise	
Sunday 29th	Calary	9.30	WB	MP	<i>Matt. 2:13-23</i>
	St Matthew's	11.00	WB	MP	