



PARISH INFORMATION NEWS SHEET

Parish of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy with Calary



JULY

2020

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VACANT

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www.newtownmountkennedyparish.org
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Dear Friends

Are we nearly there yet? are we nearly there yet? A familiar question to many parents! Well we are entering another chapter along the road of the pandemic virus which has affected virtually every aspect of our existence as human beings. We are preparing to return to our church buildings where we will engage with and encounter a modified way of participating in worship from that to which we were accustomed.

It has often been said – that doing things in the way or manner in which they have always been done – is in real terms actually moving backwards! That is not in any way to say that the ‘new ‘ measures being put in place to ensure all our safety, as we return to worship in our church buildings, are in any way permanent or intended to be the ‘new norm’. Such measures will hopefully be relatively short lived. How ‘long’ or ‘short’ this period will be – no one knows!

We look forward to welcoming as many as is possible – Health and Government regulations allowing- to our continuing worship. Further information of services throughout the coming month are contained elsewhere in PINS.

As with so many facets of our lives – there is often the unforeseen consequence! One such unforeseen consequence of having had to think of alternative means of reaching out to parishioners during the ‘Lockdown’ has been our ‘online’ services. By being online – we have unknowingly been ‘seen and heard’ by viewers both near and far who are not members of the parish. ‘Outreach’ in a very real sense.

Aside from viewers and followers of our worship as far afield as Connaught- our farthest viewer known to date is based in Ankara in Turkey! Yes ,we have reached the Anglican Church of St Nicolas in Ankara which is in the Anglican Diocese of Europe. The Chaplain of this church is the Revd. Patrick Irwin who has some amazing connections with St Matthews in Newcastle. His Great Grandfather- Revd Henry Irwin was incumbent in the parish for many years, his Grandfather Edmund went as a missionary to South Africa and his granduncles went to Canada and the West Indies. Patrick himself may likely be known to many of you whereby he has himself lead worship in the parish in the 1980’s.

It is with great joy that I pass on greetings from the congregation of St Nicolas to which I have in turn extended our greetings as we each pray for each other.

Returning to our church buildings over the next number of weeks, will for some of us, and very much the clergy, require many differing skills. Navigation being to the forefront. Navigating new regulations, requirements and recommendations will likely require skills akin to being a gondolier and indeed how many of us – myself included would enjoy being a gondolier at this time !

Whatever the weeks and months ahead may hold for us all- it will indeed be another chapter in the life of the ‘church’. The early ‘church’ was very different to what we consider to be normal or the only way of ‘doing’ church. Perhaps 2020 will be remembered, from an ecclesiastical perspective, as being the commencement of a decade that saw ‘renewal’ in a whole new way. The decade that reinvented ‘church’ and grasped the challenge as presented rather than bemoaning an opportunity being lost. Maybe we will witness ‘being’ church rather than ‘doing’ church.

Statisticians will likely within months be able to inform us of the fact that ‘the church’ has, by accident perhaps more so than by design, found a way to reach out to many many people who would not have considered themselves to be regular worshippers, through innovative ‘online’ services.

Hand washing and Social Distancing will be new and yes - let’s admit it – strange to probably all of us from a ‘worship perspective’. But then just 3 short months ago how many of us would have signed up to ‘online worship’ as being anyway ‘normal’ yet alone an acceptable alternative to the comfort of our revered freezing cold stone buildings!!

I eagerly look forward to meeting with as many of you as is possible over the coming weeks as we journey and navigate together the early stages of ‘being’ church in church !

Whilst difficulties very much abound for so many in all walks of life- I pray that each one may find even a few hours during the coming

months – to take a breath and if possible relax and enjoy something of summer.

Continued thanks to all our ‘Front line Workers’. You are not forgotten.

Revd. Niall Stratford

Visit by Archbishop Michael Jackson to St Matthew’s Church

We were absolutely delighted to host The Most Reverend Dr. Michael Jackson and the Venerable Neal O’Raw in St Matthew’s for a recorded service of Holy Communion for the first Sunday after Trinity on 14 June 2020. The Archbishop had expressed his deep desire to be able to worship with us during this time and was particularly pleased to have been able to fulfil this commitment. We are truly grateful to him for his witness and guidance during the Covid 19 pandemic and for making time to celebrate Holy Communion amongst us.

Unfortunately the number of congregants who could be present was restricted due to Covid 19 regulations. We wish to express our thanks to the following individuals who enabled this service to come to fruition:

Nicholas and Robin for the recording and presentation of this service, Amy for reading, Caroline for the prayers, Sheila for playing the organ, Jane for preparing the Church, and to Karen for her assistance in preparing the Order of Service.

We pray for continued guidance for Archbishop Michael Jackson and Archdeacon Neal O’Raw and that they and their families may remain in good health.

Revd. Niall Stratford



WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH ON 5th JULY! WE MISSED YOU

It will be lovely to attend church again, but things will be a little different in our 'new normal'. Please be patient and understand that any changes are to protect your health and safety, and are in line with current health guidelines, the Government roadmap for reopening society, and protocols for return to work. The Diocese has issued a document with a checklist for parishes to follow when reopening church buildings for public worship and these are baseline requirements. Of course, as things change on an ongoing basis, procedures in church may change also as we negotiate out of lockdown.

So what will going to church look like?

When you arrive in the church grounds or park your car, we ask that you stay 2 metres apart from those who are not from your own household.

You will see the familiar signs advising on health and safety, and on physical distancing.

When you enter church you will be required to use hand sanitiser.

You will also be asked to take a disinfectant wipe to clean any surfaces you may come into contact with in your pew. This is an extra layer of hygiene as the church will have been thoroughly cleaned before the service.

You will then be invited to take a service sheet - all prayer books, hymn books and bibles will be removed from the churches. You are asked not to bring your own prayer books, etc to church. You are requested to bring your service sheet home with you.

Pews will be filled in order from the front of the church, so you may not be able to sit in your usual pew. Due to the requirement for 2m distancing, there will be a limited number of pews available. This could result in some people not gaining entrance to the church on occasion.

Attendance will be recorded to aid contact tracing should a case of Covid-19 be confirmed, and will be compliant with GDPR.

Weather permitting, the church will be ventilated by leaving doors open during the service.

There will be no unnecessary movement around the church during the service.

There will be no singing. *(I can hear the gasp!)*

No collection will be taken. There will be a retiring collection on the day, but we encourage you to set up a standing order with your bank if possible.

After the service the congregation will leave by a separate exit door, leaving in order, pew nearest the door first.

Please 'leave no trace' - take everything with you.

There will be no handshakes with the minister.

There will be no tea/coffee after services.

Please be advised that the current advice from State health agencies is to wear a face covering when in an enclosed space.

Those who have come in contact with COVID-19, or who are feeling unwell, should not attend for their own safety and the safety of others. If you are in an at-risk group you should think carefully before attending. Services will be recorded and will be available on social media for those who cannot attend church.

Hi everyone,

It seems a long time since we all saw each other in person, but little by little things are edging towards 'normality'. Rev Niall Stratford has made the decision to restart services on Sunday 5th July, with strict adherence to all guidelines from government and health agencies. It is recommended that there should be separate entrances and exits to buildings, and, because of this, Niall has elected to hold services in Calary and Newcastle to start with - St Matthew's has only one door. Hopefully this will be a short term problem which can be resolved after reviewing how procedures work in the other churches.

Last Summer we were lucky enough to have three fundraisers - the Colour Run held in Newcastle Village, the Open Garden at Caroline Tindal's home, and the Summer Party in the grounds of the Parish Centre. While we can't rule out a fundraiser completely this year we will definitely feel the pinch financially, so if you can manage to support the Parish the details are below. Many thanks to all those who have continued to give to the Parish via bank transfer, etc. You have enabled the Parish to pay its bills over the lockdown period. Much appreciated!

At the moment the intention is to reopen the Parish Centre in mid-August so that we can prepare the building for the return of parish groups, tenants, the playschool and the afterschool. This means that the Parish Office is not open on an official basis. However I am working from home each day so please don't hesitate to contact me. I am also happy to meet with anyone in the Centre if requested, so long as health guidelines are adhered to.

I hope it won't be too long until we can again have weekly coffee mornings and monthly lunches, not to mention outings. We will find a way to make it happen. In the meantime enjoy the Summer and I'll see you in church.

Karen

Bank: AIB, Church Rd., Greystones

Account Name: Select Vestry Parish of Newcastle & Newtownmountkennedy

IBAN: IE72AIBK 9335 5415 2450 30

BIC : AIBKIE2D

Keeping in Touch

If you know of someone who would like to be added to the whatsapp, text or email groups who receive links to the recorded church services each week, please let me know.

Similarly, if you know of someone who would like a copy of PINS to be delivered or posted to them get in contact.

Karen

Thanks

A word of thanks to our local businesses who kept us going through the lockdown. Others are now reopening and would really appreciate our custom. So whether it's the local shop who stocked extra goods when we couldn't travel, the butcher who was extra helpful, the local pub, the local hairdresser or beauty salon, the local hotel who stayed trading with takeaway food, the post office, the pharmacies, the country market, our small supermarkets, and many more - thank you!

Please support local businesses in these tough times.

Welcome Back Video

This video is now available on the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough YouTube Channel here: <https://youtu.be/vcYyhwFTRKQ> It is designed to give parishes audio visual support in providing 'back to in-church worship' information to parishioners.

Bryan Dobson guides church goers through the general steps to be observed to ensure safety in churches. He notes that parishioners should acquaint themselves with whatever specific guidelines are put in place in their own parishes.

The video is produced by Greg Fromholtz and his team.

CALARY NEWS

Return of Sunday Services

With the imminent return of Sunday Services, work has been done to ensure that all parishioners will be coming back to a safe environment. Stringent guidelines have been put in place based on all current health guidelines issued by the Government, the HSE and the National Public Health Emergency Team. No Hymn or Prayer Books will be used and there will be a one way system in place for entering and exiting the church. Special procedures will be in place for families and a seating plan, taking into account social distancing, has been put in place. This may mean that you will not be sitting in your usual pews but this will be for the safety of all attending. For those who are not able to be seated in the church, they will be accommodated in the Church Room and the new sound system will be in operation. Please follow all instructions given by the ushers and, at the beginning and end of the services, please do not congregate on the paths to the Church Lane.

We would like to thank both Rev Nigel Waugh and Rev Niall Stratford for the online services. Also thanks are due to Nicholas, Robin and Amy for their technical work and readings, to the Archbishop, Archdeacon and Caroline Tindal, the organists – Charlotte and Sheila – all of the readers, Diarmuid and Peter for the recordings and all of the other people who have made the services possible. It will be good to be back worshipping together but while it will not be quite the same as we have been used to, it is a start.

The 'Welcome Back' video is available on the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough YouTube Channel: <https://youtu.be/vcYyhWFTRKQ> It is designed to give parishes audio visual support in providing 'back to in-church worship' information to parishioners.

As you will see it is a high quality production thanks to Greg Fromholz and his team. Bryan Dobson guides church goers through the general steps to be observed to ensure safety in churches. He notes that parishioners should acquaint themselves with whatever specific guidelines are put in place in their own parishes.

Maura Gregory

We would like to sympathise with Dairine, John, Charlotte and Zoe Gregory on the death of John's mother, Maura and also his sister, Marie.

CLASS OF 2020



**Good luck in the future to
St Francis' NS class of 2020**

**Holly Coster
Jack Daly
Jacob Fry
Kerry Gray
Oliver Herman
Finn Lundy
Amélie McAndrew
Emily McElwain
Caragh O'Neill
Catherine O'Neill
Grace Ryan
Conor Thornton
Laura White**

Wishing you every success in your new schools

Have a great Summer

Don't forget to visit!

Trees Word Search

W R O W I H A A Z H M A T G C
A T S I U R P O N U S H W D A
A T K L A R P T G L A A D O A
N O R L S Y L T R W L L O R W
E S P O C H E S T N U T G A A
D O O W D E R H U R I F W I K
P C L N W C O T T O N W O O D
P K Y S E R M R D H I C O U I
M R R P N N A O S T P P D Q L
H L R R R D C A P K A L D E R
O A E U E E Y A L C K L E S H
H R H C N U S N O U N P U K A
A C C E O P G S Y B I R C H W
T H A Z E L P A M N H W R D L
D C I N C E S W E Y C U D N T

Alder

Apple

Ash

Aspen

Birch

Buckthorn

Cedar

Cherry

Chestnut

Chinkapin

Cottonwood

Cypress

Dogwood

Elm

Fir

Hawthorn

Hazel

Larch

Maple

Oak

Pine

Poplar

Redwood

Sequoia

Spruce

Sweetgum

Sycamore

Walnut

Willow

Yew



Playschool

Parish Centre, Church Lane, Newcastle

Open 9am to 12.30pm

5 days a week

Full-time and Part-time places

ECCE and non-ECCE

**Lovely rural setting
within sight of the castle**

**Bright modern facilities
2 outdoor spaces
(one on artificial grass and
one large natural play area)
Huge indoor hall**

**Montessori
Sport, Science, Gardening, Art
Interacting with nature**

Phone: 087-2866889

KIDS



COLOURING

NOAH'S ARK

SERVICES IN JULY

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
Sunday 5th <i>4th Sunday after Trinity</i>	Calary	9.30	NS	MP	<i>Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Romans 7:15-25 Matt. 11: 16-19, 25-30</i>
	Newcastle	11.00	NS	MP	
Sunday 12th <i>5th Sunday after Trinity</i>	Calary	9.30	NS	MP	<i>Genesis 25:19-34 Romans 8: 1-11 Matt. 13: 1-9, 18-23</i>
	Newcastle	11.00	NS	MP	
Sunday 19th <i>6th Sunday after Trinity</i>	Calary	9.30	NS	MP	<i>Genesis 28:10-19 Romans 8: 12-25 Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43</i>
	Newcastle	11.00	NS	MP	
Sunday 26th <i>7th Sunday after Trinity</i>	Calary	9.30	NS	MP	<i>Genesis 29:15-28 Romans 8:26-39 Matt. 13:31-33, 44-52</i>
	Newcastle	11.00	NS	MP	



**No Holy Communion in St Matthew's Church
on Wednesday mornings for the moment**

**Trust in the LORD with all your heart;
and lean not to your own understanding.**

Proverbs 3:5

