



Anglican Communion - Church of Ireland - Diocese of Clogher

## Carrickmacross, Magheracloone and Ardragh Group of Parishes



St. Finbarr's Carrickmacross, St. Molua's Magheracloone, St. Patrick's Ardragh



# Newsletter

February 2012

## Worship

### New Arrangements

From the beginning of March we will be taking over the organising of weekly worship in the Ballybay Group of Parishes from the Diocesan Office. Mr Walter Pringle has been assigned to us for the time being and he will lead the worship in the Ballybay Group except for one Sunday a month when he will lead Morning Prayer in Carrickmacross Group while the Rector celebrates Holy Communion in the three churches of the Ballybay Group. We will continue to have the early communion service in St. Finbarr's each Sunday.

### Ash Wednesday

Lent begins this year on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February and we will begin our

observance of this penitential season with Holy Communion in Carrickmacross at 10.30am and a special service at 7.30pm in the evening in St. Finbarr's.

### Confirmation

The service for the south Monaghan area will be held in St. Maeldoid's Church in Castleblayney on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00pm in the afternoon. While we will have the usual Sunday morning services we would encourage everyone to come to the Confirmation service, the first held by our new Bishop in Co. Monaghan.

In the meantime please pray for our candidates, Calum Murray, Andrew Hill, Lesley Dolan, Diane Whyte and Victoria Whyte from our group and Alanna Crawford, Alice Crawford, Danielle Dickson, Matthew Dickson, Aaron Dixon, Abraham Dixon, Zoe Flack, Ross Lowey, Sophie McKenna, Micheal John

*Notes for the newsletter should  
be with the Rector by the last  
Sunday of the month please*

O'Connor, Chloe Boyd Tate, Dillon Duffy and Garry Johns from the Ballybay Group of churches and also Annija Gold who is being prepared for Confirmation in Cavan Royal School.

## Parish News

### Easter General Vestry

This is the AGM of the Parish and it was agreed at the Select Vestry in Carrickmacross that their meeting will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> April. We still have to arrange the Magheraclone and Ardragh meetings. Anyone can attend this meeting but only those who have signed the General Vestry form are entitled to vote. If you would like to be on the list for one of our three churches please ask the Rector for the form.

### Parish Picnic

We are hoping to have a united service for the Group at St. Patrick's Ardragh on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April at midday followed by a parish picnic in the lovely grounds there with some games for younger people. Please take note of this date now.

### Barbecue

At the February Select Vestry meeting it was agreed to hold a

Barbecue again this summer probably in July. A small committee will steer this project along and we thank them for taking it on.

### Lent 2012

This year we will distribute Bishop's Appeal envelopes at the beginning of Lent and ask you to support this appeal for Famine and Disaster relief and for Development projects world wide. This, and the collection we make for Steadfast House we make at Christmas is the only outside Appeals we make during the year and we ask for generous support.

## Reports

### Thanks

We are most grateful to Mr Freddie Merrin for sourcing and fitting a suitable water meter on our water supply pipe. We hope that this will solve a rather embarrassing historical situation, not of our making, and we are grateful to Mr Gerry Shankey the Principal of the St. Louis Convent School for his kind assistance in sorting this out.

## People

### Holy Baptism

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January Aaron

## THIS MONTH

Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, St. Finbarr's
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.00pm	Select Vestry, Carrickmacross Parish Room
Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Castleblayney
		7.30pm	Junior Table Tennis
		8.00pm	Youth Council, Monaghan
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Ballybay
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, St. Finbarr's
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Castleblayney
		7.30pm	Junior Table Tennis
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Ballybay
Monday	13 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, St. Finbarr's
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	MU and Friends, Parish Room
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Castleblayney
		7.30pm	Junior Table Tennis
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Ballybay
Wednesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Ash Wednesday Communion
		7.30pm	Penitential Service in St. Finbarr's
Friday	24 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Castleblayney
		7.30pm	Junior Table Tennis
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Confirmation Class, Ballybay
Monday	27 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room

## NEXT MONTH

Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Women's World Day Prayer service
Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Confirmation Service, Castleblayney
Saturday	17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	St. Patrick's Day Holy Communion

## COMING SOON

Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Sunday
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup> April	Carrickmacross Easter Vestry
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup> April	United Service & Picnic

John Norris, baby son of Jackie and Mattie Norris of Killark was baptised in St. Finbarr's Church.

David Norris and Eimear Cahill stood as his godparents. There was a great gathering of the Norris and

## Sunday Services

### ***5<sup>th</sup> February 2012, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent      Green***

Isaiah 40.21-31, Psalm 147.1-12, 21c, 1 Cor. 9.16-23, Mark 1.29-39

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Rector
Magheracluone	11.45am	MP	Rector
Ardragh	1.00pm	HC	Rector

### ***12<sup>th</sup> February 2012, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent      Green***

Proverbs 8.1, 22-31, Psalm 104.26-37, Colossians 1.15-20, John 1.1-14

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	MP	Rector
Magheracluone	11.45am	HC	Rector

### ***19<sup>th</sup> February 2012, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday before Lent      Green***

Kings 2.1-12, Psalm 50.1-6, 2 Corinthians 4.3-6, Mark 9.2-9

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Rector
Magheracluone	11.45am	MP	Rector
Ardragh	1.00pm	MP	Rector

### ***26<sup>th</sup> February 2012, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent      Purple***

Genesis 9.8-17, Psalm 25.1-9, 1 Peter 3.18-22, Mark 1.9-15

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	MP	Rector
Magheracluone	11.45am	MP	Rector

### ***4<sup>th</sup> March 2012, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent      Purple***

Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22.23-31, Romans 4.13-25, Mark 8.31-38

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Rector
Magheracluone	11.45am	MP	Rector
Ardragh	1.00pm	HC	Rector

## Parish Ministry Team

**Rector:** Rev Robert Kingston, 042 9661931, 087 6386463

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Cahill families and the service was followed by a lovely meal in the Fiddlers Restaurant.

## **Bereavements**

Unfortunately we have had quite a number of funerals over the past weeks and we sympathise sincerely with all those who have bereaved. The funeral service of Jamie Gavin McGlashen of Magherboy aged only 27 took place in St. Finbarr's on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012. A number of his friends took part in the service which was a very moving occasion. His remains were then taken to Calry Churchyard in Co. Wicklow for interment in the family plot there. We extend our sincere sympathy to his father Gavin, and his family to Yvonne and her family and all those who have been bereaved.

Mrs Elizabeth Babington lived out her married life at the Post Office and farm in Coolderry after her early years in St. Patrick's Ardragh. She played a central part in the community there, a fact underlined by the large and representative attendance at her funeral in St. Molua's Church in Magheracluone. We extend our sympathy to her daughter Shirley, her sons Hillary, Robert and Eddie and their families in their loss.

The day after Mrs Babington's funeral Mrs Anne Jane Nelson was buried in Kingscourt. She was originally from Magheracluone and was a frequent visitor to St. Patrick's Ardragh and indeed to special services in all our churches. We express our sympathy to all the Breaden family and her other relations and especially to May Breaden her niece and constant companion in recent years.

## **Accident**

We constantly hear of how dangerous farming is but maybe we don't think much about it until it comes close to home Mr Jimmy Babington suffered severe injuries when attacked by one of his cows recently and as we write is in hospital in Drogheda. We assure him and Margaret of our prayers and concern and hope that he will soon recover.

## **Organisations**

### **MU & Friends**

We had a very enjoyable evening in Eleanor and John Howell's home for our Pot Luck supper. Our meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> February will be an Answers night when various issues that come up will be asked and members talk about how they dealt or would deal with them.

A group, men and women, are going to the Saturday Night Show in RTE on 25<sup>th</sup> February. If anyone else is interested in coming please contact Rosemary straight away as we are about to confirm our numbers with RTE.

## Study Group

We have been making our way through the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians. It has led to some lively discussion as people take very different views about the rather controversial character of St. Paul. This meets fortnightly during the period up to Easter.

## Table Tennis

Our Junior Teams are going really well. In the past few weeks the Division 6A team beat Drum and Bailieboro in the league and Coroneary in the Cup. The Div.6B team also beat Coroneary in the Cup and lost to Bailieboro in the League. Our Div.8 team beat Coroneary and Newbliss. Congratulations all round and sincere thanks to the leaders of the club who are doing such a great job with the young people.

## Bowls

The Jackson Hall Bowling Club has had a very full programme during January in contrast to last

year when everything ground to a halt with the weather. They have had some good wins and most enjoyable nights of fun. We have five more matches and the club tournament before the end of the season. Please note that it is planned to have a meal out on the 28<sup>th</sup> March by which time the tournament should be completed.

## Youth Club

The meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> January went really well trying out some dancing moves and doing matching puzzles, story telling and quick reaction games. We had a visit from the youth officer, Jonny Phenix. There are plans next month to have a joint meeting with the youth club in Kingscourt which has twenty five members and is also going really well.

## Notices

### Encaustic Beeswax Painting

"New Hobby Classes at the Carrickmacross Workhouse"

Classes in Encaustic Beeswax Painting using pigmented wax and low heat tools - 5 week class - Wednesday Evenings, starting 14th March 7:30-9:30pm. Enquiries to Niamh 086 3951928 or [thistittlestudio@eircom.net](mailto:thistittlestudio@eircom.net).

## Diocesan News

### New Cleric

in Devenish and Boho Group of Parishes

The Revd Sampson Ajuka, born in Nigeria and resident in Italy for a number of years, will be introduced by the Bishop of Clogher, the Rt Revd John McDowell, as diocesan curate with responsibility for the Devenish and Boho Group of Parishes at a service of introduction on Thursday 2nd February 2012 in Devenish Parish Church, Monea commencing at 7.30pm. Mr Ajuka studied at the Queens Foundation for Theological Studies in Birmingham, was ordained in the Church of England, and served the Church in Venice, Padova and Trieste in the Diocese in Europe. Commenting on his move to the Church of Ireland, he said "moving into a new place with different culture is not an easy thing, it is like a school boy starting his primary education."

Commenting on the appointment, Bishop McDowell said "it is with great enthusiasm that we welcome Sampson and his family into the Diocese. I think I am correct in saying that Sampson will be the

first African clergy person to have charge of a parish in the Diocese of Clogher, and his presence will also serve to remind us that the Anglican Communion, to which we belong, is a worldwide fellowship. For many years all of the movement of clergy was from the UK and Ireland to Africa, but now the Churches of Africa are in a position to share their spiritual riches with us. We rejoice in that day."

Mr Ajuka, his wife Ugonna and their two children Chiemela and Rejoice moved from Italy at the end of December 2011, to Northern Ireland where everything is entirely different from what it was back in Italy, especially moving from an urban area to a rural place. "This is a new experience for us but the good thing to be happy about is that we are settling in gradually with the help of good people the Lord is sending" he said.

Again, moving from the Church of England to the Church of Ireland is also a great challenge. Mr Ajuka noted that "both have different ways of doing things, so I need to work hard to fit into the system gradually. I am very happy with the plan the Diocese has put in place to help me get to know

the dos and don'ts! At the moment, I am working with the Dean of the Cathedral, the Very Revd Kenneth Hall, and the Diocesan Curate, the Revd Alistair Warke, alongside others in the Cathedral. They are doing their best to help me with things I need to know, as is the Revd Anita Kerr who has been looking after Devenish and Boho during the vacancy, and the Rural Dean of Enniskillen, the Revd Chancellor Stanley Bourke."

Having made his declarations to the Bishop in the presence of the Diocesan Registrar, the Revd Canon John Stewart, Mr Ajuka looks forward with passion and enthusiasm to 2nd February to be introduced at the Church in Devenish. Commenting on his new role in ministry, Mr Ajuka says "as the deer pants for streams of water, my soul pants for God who will supply in abundance the grace, vision and power to carry out the ministry in the grouped parishes of Devenish and Boho after the introduction service. I am sure it will be a great day! We are thanking God for those who will attend the service and asking God for journeying mercies."

## Just to cheer us up

Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year.

- Victor Borge

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint.

- Mark Twain

By all means, marry. If you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.

- Socrates

I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back.

- Zsa Zsa Gabor

My luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery, people would stop dying.

- Rodney Dangerfield

Money can't buy you happiness .... But it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery.

- Spike Milligan

Until I was thirteen, I thought my name was SHUT UP .

- Joe Namath

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you.

- Winston Churchill

By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere.

- Billy Crystal

And the cardiologist's diet: - If it tastes good spit it out.