



Anglican Communion – Church of Ireland – Diocese of Clogher

# Carrickmacross and Magheracluone with Ardragh Group of Parishes



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



# Newsletter

March 2009

## Worship

### WWDP

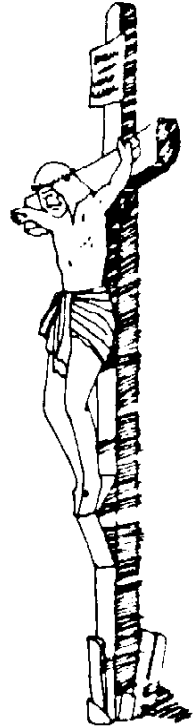
This year it is the turn of the St. Louis Sisters to host this annual event in the St. Louis Convent in Carrickmacross. The Women's World Day of Prayer is an international cycle of prayer that travels right around the world and will be observed with a special prayer service on Friday 6th March at 8pm in Carrickmacross. All are welcome, including men though the worship is organised and run entirely by women.

### Holy Week

Our observance of Holy Week will begin on Spy Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> April with a Penitential service in Carrickmacross at 8pm as we remember Judas's betrayal of our Lord. On Maunday Thursday

evening the Rector has to lead the worship in the Rockcorry Group so there will be an Evening Prayer in Magheracluone at 8pm led by Ms Naomi Quinn. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion on Maunday Thursday at 10.30am in Carrickmacross

after which we will remove all decorations from the church. On Good Friday we will spend the three hours from midday to 3pm in the church in Carrickmacross using the film 'The Passion' as the basis for our meditation by the cross interspersed with hymns and prayers. The Good Friday evening service will be in Carrickmacross



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

at 8pm and centres round the reading of the long Good Friday Gospel.

## **Easter Services**

Apart from an extra 8am Holy Communion service all the other Easter Communions will be at the usual Sunday times – 10.30am in Carrickmacross, 11.45am in Magheracluone and 1pm in Ardragh. The churches will be decorated for Easter on Holy Saturday.

## **News**

### **CMX Gift Day**

It was suggested at the last Carrickmacross Select Vestry meeting in 2008 that we should have a special Gift Day for parish funds on Easter Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April. Carrickmacross has benefited greatly over the years from good interest income from investments. While our capital investments remain intact, through reduced in value, the income from them has almost disappeared. This situation will be explained in detail at the Carrickmacross Easter General Vestry but in the meantime we will organise a Gift Day for Easter Sunday and are appealing for as generous support as can be given in these difficult times.

## **M&A Appeal**

The Magheracluone and Ardragh Select Vestry has issued a letter to all parishioners appealing for an increase in regular giving. The Parish has been faced with a greatly increased assessment from the diocese this year. This is because the assessment this year was based on the number of people listed on the General Vestry list, the official list of parishioners, and the diocese is looking for the parish to contribute about E200 per parishioner to pay for clergy pay, pensions etc. This appeal is a first step, the second step will be to review the list of all those who respond to this appeal and to approach all those who do not to ask whether they wish to continue their association with the parish, keep their burial rights etc. A third step has already been taken in appealing to the diocese to review this increase. However, given that the northern Clogher parishes already subsidise our Group by 25% it seems unlikely they can do much. As we say in the appeal letter a small number of parishioners have kept the parish going over the past years but with unemployment affecting us badly and with the general turn down in the economy we desperately need

everyone to do their bit to keep the parish financially sound.

## Study Group

After discussing our plans to use the 'Passion' film for our Study Group meetings during Lent it emerged that some people would prefer our more usual discussion style of meeting. We are, therefore, changing our plans and will use the BBC film about the Passion on Good Friday from midday to 3pm. The Study Group will stay with the Passion theme and will meet each Monday night in Lent to discuss passages of scripture which explain the meaning of our Lord's Passion

## Lent

We are not making a Bishops' Appeal or other third world appeal this Lent as there was such a generous response to the Al Ahli Hospital appeal. If you are undertaking some form of Lenten discipline which involves your saving money for some good cause then we would encourage you to nominate your own charity or good cause and support that directly. You might like to pass it to the Parish treasurer for forwarding in which case the Parish may be able to increase your amount by claiming tax relief in your name at no cost to you.

## EGV lists

We are currently updating the General Vestry lists. As mentioned elsewhere it has become clear that these lists are somewhat out of line with the actual involvement of people in the Parish and by the time the Easter Vestry meetings will have come along we hope to have contacted people about this. If you would like to add your name to the General Vestry List, the official list of parishioners who can vote at the Easter Vestry meetings then please ask the Churchwardens or Rector for the application form.

## EGV Meetings

In the Church of Ireland set up the Rector does not run the Parish. Rector's chair the Select Vestry which is the business committee of the parish and this committee is elected by all the parishioners at the Easter General Vestry meeting, the AGM of the parish if you like. It is the Select Vestry that runs the parish. If parishioners don't bother to come to the EGV then it can be hard to elect an effective Select Vestry. We had a bit of controversy last year when we had a good turn out at the CMX EGV and a number of changes were made on the Select Vestry because of the way the voting went. We are sorry if

**Mothers' Union  
and Friends  
Know your Rights  
a talk on Social Welfare**

**Speaker: Philip McCabe  
Monaghan Citizens' Advice  
Bureau  
on Thursday 5th March  
in the Workhouse, CMX  
at 8.00pm**

**We invite other groups to  
come and friends and family  
are welcome  
Refreshments Served**

Room and the Magheraclone and Ardragh meeting will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm.

**Gifts for Dedication**

We have received a number of gifts for the churches recently of Curtains, Prayer Books and some parts of a new Heating system in Carrickmacross. At the CMX Select Vestry a suggestion was made that extra radiators might be added to the system and that families might like to subsidise a radiator. We would hope to have a dedication service at some stage in the future and would urge others who we know are thinking about giving gifts as memorials to

loved ones to think about doing this in the near future.

**Reports**

**Al Ahli Hospital**

We would like to thank everyone who supported our appeal for the Episcopal Hospital in Gaza City. In particular we thank Lorna and Karl Moy for opening their home for a Ladies night on the 29th January in aid of the Appeal. There may be more money to come but currently we have sent over E1300 to the Diocesan Board of Mission for the Bishop to pass on to Bishop Dwani in Gaza.

people felt hurt by the outcome of the voting but it is a sign of an effective democracy at work when new people are willing to get involved in running things. We would appeal for a full turn out of those on the General Vestry list this year. Other parishioners can come to the meeting but are not entitled to vote. If you want to be sure of voting ask for an application slip to have your name added to the list. The General Vestry list can be inspected in the Vestry room at any time. The Carrickmacross General Easter Vestry meeting will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> March at 8pm in the Parish

## Sunday Services

### ***1<sup>st</sup> March 2009, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent Year B (Purple)***

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

Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Rector
Magheraclone	11.45am	HC	Rector
Ardragh	1.00pm	HC	Rector

### ***8<sup>th</sup> March 2009, 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	Family	Rector
Magheraclone	11.45am	MP	Rector

### ***15<sup>th</sup> March 2009, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent Year B (Purple)***

Exodus 20.1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1.18-25, John 2.13-22

Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Rector
Magheraclone	11.45am	MP	Rector
Ardragh	1.00pm	MP	Rector

### ***22<sup>nd</sup> March 2009, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (Mothering) (Purple)***

1 Samuel 1.20-28, Psalm 127.1-4, Colossians 3.12-17, John 19.25-27

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	Family	Rector
Magheraclone	11.45am	Family	Rector

### ***29<sup>th</sup> March 2009, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (Passion) (Purple)***

Jeremian 31.31-34, Psalm 51.1-13, Hebrews 5.5-10, John 12.20-33

Carrickmacross	10.30am	MP	Rector
Magheraclone	11.45am	MP	Rector

### ***5<sup>th</sup> April 2009, 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (Palm) (Purple)***

Isaiah 50.4-9a, Psalm 118.1-2, 19-29, Philippians 2.5-11, Mark 11.1-11,

Carrickmacross	10.30am	MP	Rector
Magheraclone	11.45am	MP	Rector

## Parish Ministry Team

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

Email: [rgk@eircom.net](mailto:rgk@eircom.net) Website: [www.carrickmacross.clogher.anglican.org](http://www.carrickmacross.clogher.anglican.org)

## Church Repairs

Work has continued on St. Molua's partly by volunteers and partly through the FAS scheme in repairing, decorating etc. We express our sincere thanks to those who have given their time to this.

## Magazines

Payment for the Diocesan Magazine is now well overdue and we would appeal to everyone who takes the magazine to make their payment to Mr Alan Sweetnam as soon as possible please.

## People

### Archdeacon Rountree

The Select Vestry in Magheraclone and Ardragh sent a letter of congratulation to the Venerable Richard Rountree, who is originally from Magheraclone on his appointment as Archdeacon of Glendalough by the Archbishop of Dublin. He has written back to thank everyone for their good wishes. We must invite him back soon for some special occasion.

### Sickness

A number of parishioners are unwell, some with serious issues, at this time. We assure them of our ongoing prayers.

## Unemployment

Curiously, at the height of the heady days of the Celtic Tiger one of the most popular songs on Lyric FM was Stephen Foster's haunting song 'Hard times come again no more'. Unfortunately they are coming again and the plague of unemployment and, even worse, of long term unemployment, is threatening to 'linger about our cabin doors'. We have made contact with the local development agency about the possibility of getting parish related work schemes off the ground but as yet there does not seem to be any clarity on what funding will be available. Facing unemployment alone is devastating, coming together with others in the same situation can be a great help and we hope we can do something along these lines.

## Bereavement

Two months ago we recorded the death of Davy Babington of Camaghy and mentioned his brother George who had cared for him for over twenty years. George was not well enough to attend Davy's funeral and sadly died himself on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January in hospital in Dundalk. His funeral and interment took place in St. Molua's, Magheraclone on the 16<sup>th</sup> January. Once again the

burden of making the arrangements fell mainly on George's son Richard who lives in England and to him and all George's children: Ann, Kitty, Ester, Patrick, Richard, Lorraine and David, to his sisters Linda, Lily and Martha and all his grandchildren we express our sincere sympathy. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, they are blessed indeed says the Spirit for they rest from their labours.

### **Mothers Union**

In January we had a wonderful Pot Luck Supper evening in Caroline Merrins home We then had a very enjoyable fund raising evening in Lorna Moy's home where over E900 was made for the the Al Ahli hospital. In February there was a planning meeting and general discussion in the Parish Room which was most useful in thinking through the important March meeting and other issues.

Our March meeting on Thursday 5th March will be in the Workhouse. Philip McCabe of RTE fame will be talking about Social Welfare. This will be a visitors night, we will be inviting other groups and friends and family are welcome. We would encourage members and other parishioners to get as many people as possible to come to this

meeting. Philip McCabe is an extraordinary speaker whose grasp of the whole complicated Social Welfare system is a joy to experience when he speaks regularly and answers questions on RTE's Mooney programme. The Workhouse have also given us the room at a very favourable rate and we really do have to show our appreciation by making this a big event. A lot of effort has been put in to organising this meeting and we do appeal for good support which we believe will be well rewarded by our excellent speaker.

### **Table Tennis**

Our League Division 6 team on 5th January played Newbliss and lost 30 to nil. In League Division 7 on the 9th January played Drum and lost 21 to 16. On the 24th January played Bailieborough and won 18 to 16 and more recently beat Doochat 30 to nil.

So somewhat mixed fortunes but we are improving all the time and our young people are thoroughly enjoying, and benefiting from the experience. We thank all the leaders and parents who are making all this possible.

## THIS MONTH

Monday	1 <sup>st</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room
Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, St. Finbarr's
		8.00pm	MU and Friends, Workhouse CMX
Friday	6 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	WWDP, St. Louis Convent
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Hymn Practice, St. Finbarr's
		8.30pm	Study Group, Parish Room
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, St. Finbarr's
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	St. Patrick's Day, Communion, CMX
			Youth Council Sponsored Walk
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, St. Finbarr's
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	5.00pm	Lutheran Service, St. Finbarr's
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, St. Finbarr's
Monday	30 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room
Tuesday	31 <sup>st</sup>	8.00pm	Easter General Vestry, CMX

## NEXT MONTH

Monday	6 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Hymn Practice, St. Finbarr's
Spy Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Penitential Service, St. Finbarr's
Maunday Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion, St. Finbarr's
		8.00pm	Service in St. Molua's
Good Friday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Midday	Three Hours by the Cross, CMX
		8.00pm	Service in St. Finbarr's
Easter Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Easter Communion St. Finbarr's
		10.30am	Easter Communion St. Finbarr's
		11.45am	Easter Communion, St. Molua's
		1.00pm	Easter Communion, St. Patrick's
Monday	20 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Easter Vestry Magheraclone
Monday	27 <sup>th</sup>		Rector at Clerical Conference

## COMING SOON

Friday	May 8 <sup>th</sup>	MU Festival Service, Enniskillen
Sunday	May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Diocesan Youth Service, St. Finbarr's