



Anglican Communion – Church of Ireland – Diocese of Clogher

# Carrickmacross and Magheraclaone with Ardragh Group of Parishes



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



# Newsletter

April 2008

## Worship

### Midweek Services

Unfortunately because of Diocesan and other commitments the mid-week routine will again be disrupted this month. There will be 10.30am services on Thursdays the 8th and 22nd only and none on the 15<sup>th</sup> (Synod Week) and the 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Whit Sunday - 11<sup>th</sup> May

The coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples in the upper room in Jerusalem represented a whole new beginning for them. Sometimes it is described as the birthday of the Church but perhaps more accurately it was the confirmation of the Church when the Spirit gave them courage to go out and fearlessly proclaim all the events they had been part of and which convinced them that Jesus was the Messiah, the Saviour they, and the Jewish people had been looking for for centuries.

So Whit is an important festival, not quite as important as Easter but certainly as important as Christmas and

all the services will be celebrations of Holy Communion. Please come along and help us celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. Because we are celebrating Holy Communion on the 11<sup>th</sup> the services on the 4<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday after the Ascension will be Morning Prayer.

### Trinity Sunday

The 18<sup>th</sup> June is a turning point in the churches year when we switch from reading about the events of Jesus life to studying his teaching. During the Trinity season this year we will be focusing on the Old Testament readings, the Jewish Scriptures, parts of which, the Law and the Prophets, Jesus would have known as God's Word. So we will be looking at the Jewish background to our understanding of God and our faith in him.

### Top Ten Hymns

At one the the Easter Vestries someone asked what had become of the list of the ten favourite hymns among parishioners. Well we have been using them at our Sunday worship where they fit the theme of the Sunday. However, just to refresh our memory we will use them as the basis for our services on the 8<sup>th</sup> June. We would like to have a short introduction to each one and are asking now if there are any

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

*the printing of this newsletter is kindly donated each month by:*

# Keegans

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volunteers to introduce your favourite hymn at that service. The favourites were: 1, Guide me O thou great redeemer, 2, Abide with me, 3, Shine, Jesus shine, 4, Jubilate everybody, 5, Be thou my vision, 6, Bind us together, 7, Jesus loves me, 8, O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, 9, Dear Lord and Father, 10, Be still for the presence.

## Ematris Weddings and Baptisms

Things are a bit busier on the family front in the Ematris Group than they are Carrickmacross, Magheraclone and Ardragh. As Ms. Naomi Quinn cannot officiate at Marriages and Baptisms but parishioners there want her to be involved it means that the Rector will have to get outside help when these events come up, as will be the case on the 18<sup>th</sup> May and 6<sup>th</sup> July. We hope that parishioners here will understand these reasons for the Rector's disappearances and appreciate the ministry of Lay Readers and others on these occasions.

## News

### Synod

The General Synod of our Church involving representatives from all part of the country will be held in Galway from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> May and the Rector will be away for those days. As with the Clerical Conference he will have his mobile with him and, while it has to be turned off at meetings, will be checking it regularly.

### Select Vestry CMX

There will be a meeting of the Select Vestry for Carrickmacross in the Parish Room on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 8.30pm. We would ask for a full attendance of members please.

## Reports

### General Vestry

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April the General Vestry meeting was held in Carrickmacross with a good number of parishioners present. The Financial Report for 2007 was presented by Mrs

## THIS MONTH

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room, CMX
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, CMX
	8.00pm	MU and Friends Closing Meal
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Old Donagh Graveyard Open Air Service
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>		General Synod in Galway.
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>		No Midweek Communion
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Study Group, Parish Room, CMX
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	8.30pm	Select Vestry, CMX
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Midweek Communion, CMX
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Sports Evening, Collegiate, Monaghan
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>		No Midweek Communion

## NEXT MONTH

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	3.30pm	Ordination Service in Clogher
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>		Friends of Castleblayney Service
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Parish Barbecue at the Rectory
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>		Monaghan Youth Council Barbecue

## COMING SOON

SUMMER MADNESS

June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> in Belfast

Eleanor Howell in the absence of Mr John Simpson. Copies of the report have been available at the back of the church. It shows that E60209 came into Parish Funds during the year, almost half of that from investments, Tax refunds etc. while it cost E54071 to run the Parish for the year, which included E7149 for the work done on the Rectory. This is obviously a very good outcome for the year but the fact that the Parish is so dependent on investment income at a time when investments are so uncertain is something the Select vestry will have to be aware of. Sincere thanks were expressed to Mr Simpson and Mrs Howell for the work they had done in

keeping the accounts during the year.

The annual and three yearly elections for Vestry members and Diocesan representatives then took place. Peoples Church Warden is Mr Freddy Merrin and Glebe Warden Mr Herbert Kenny. Rector's Church Warden: Mr Sammy Babington and Glebe Warden Mrs Betty Greer. Those elected to the Select Vestry were: Mr Ray Howell, Mr John Simpson, Mrs Eleanor Howell, Mr Robert Greer, Mr John Howell, Mr Philip Keegan, Mr Sammy Lewis, Mrs Florence Collins, Mrs Valerie Markey, Mr Gordon Sweetnam, Mr Alan Hill and Mr Alan Sweetnam. For the next three years the Nominators will be Mr Ray Howell,

## Sunday Services

### **4<sup>th</sup> May 2008, 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Ascension) (White)**

Acts 1.6-14, Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11, John 17.1-11

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

### **11<sup>th</sup> May 2008, Whit Sunday (Red)**

Acts 2.1-21, Psalm 104.26-36, 37b, 1 Cor. 12.3b-13, John 20.19-23

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Rector
Magheracloone	11.45am	HC	Rector

### **18<sup>th</sup> May 2008, Trinity Sunday (White)**

Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31, Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13.11-13, Matthew 28.16-20

Carrickmacross	10.30am	MP	
Magheracloone	11.45am	MP	
Ardragh	1.00pm	MP	Rector

### **25<sup>th</sup> May 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Proper 3 (Green)**

Isaiah 49.8-16a, Psalm 131, 1 Corinthians 4.1-5, Matthew 6.24-34

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Miss Quinn
Magheracloone	11.45am	HC	Miss Quinn

### **1<sup>st</sup> June 2008, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Proper 4 (Green)**

Genesis 6.9-22, Psalm 46, Romans 1.16-17, 3.22b-36, Matthew 7.21-29

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

### **8<sup>th</sup> June 2008, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity, Proper 5 (Green)**

Genesis 12.1-9, Psalm 33.1-12, Romans 4.13-25, Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26

Carrickmacross	8.00am	HC	Rector
Carrickmacross	10.30am	HC	Rector
Magheracloone	11.45am	HC	Rector

## Parish Ministry

**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)

Mr Gordon Sweetnam and Mr Robert Greer, supplementals: Mr Herbert Kenny, Mrs Eleanor Howell and Mr Philip Keegan. Diocesan Synod's members are Mr Herbert Kenny and Mr Philip Keegan, supplementals: Mr Gordon Sweetnam and Mr John Howell. The election of Secretary and Treasurer will take place at the first Select vestry meeting.

The Rector welcomed in the new Select Vestry and thanked all those who had not been elected for this year but have served the Parish well during the times they were on the committee.

### **Magheraclone Scouts**

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April we were delighted to welcome the scouts who were visiting local churches as part of a badge they do connected with the local community. They were given a short talk and work sheet and asked a lot of questions about the building. We thank Mrs Margaret Babington for organising the visit and for providing goodies for the young people who went away very happy with their visit.

### **Glaslough**

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April the Rector preached at the official welcome to the Rev Margaret Pringle as Non Stipendiary Minister for Donagh Group of Parishes. We wish Margaret well in her new ministry and look forward to working with her in the years ahead.

### **Clergy Conference**

This annual event was held in Dunfanaghy from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> April and was on the theme of Mission. Many of the changes in this area mentioned by our Harvest speakers last

year, and more we had not thought of, were highlighted. Now that we have made our contributions to the Jaqueranda Project we must turn our attention to finding a three to five year overseas project to support as well as the local charities we are committed to. Among other things this will be on the agenda of the incoming Vestries.

## **People**

### **Malachy and Kitty**

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April we had the very pleasant task of asking God's continued blessing on Malachy and Kitty Connolly and their family after over forty years of marriage as they renewed their marriage vows made all those years ago in Holland. There is something very special about having children and grandchildren united around you giving thanks for the blessings experienced in the past and turning to the future in faith and we thank them for allowing us to be part of this very joyful but solemn moment.

### **Sympathy**

We express our sincere sympathy to Georgina and all the Keating family of Newbliss and the McElwaines here on the very sad sudden passing of Georgina's mother at a relatively young age. It was only recently that she had won the questionnaire quiz we held here for Table Tennis equipment and she and her husband were a tremendous support at all the events held around the Newbliss and Aghabog area. The overflowing congregation at the funeral service in Scotshouse including quite a number of parishioners from our own group bore

testimony to the high esteem in which she was held. We will all miss her greatly and feel deeply for all those who mourn her passing.

## Witherington

The PSNI have been on to us recently seeking information about the nearest relatives of Mrs Matilda Witherington who was shot during the Troubles in the North in 1973 and was buried in Killany Graveyard. If anyone has any information we would be glad to pass it on.

## Interment

Mrs Henrietta (Etta) Moore nee Rafferty of Celtic Park in Drumcondra was buried in God's Acre Cemetery on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April after a funeral service in North Strand Church in Dublin. There was a large attendance of her family members from Carrickmacross and friends and family from Dublin. There were many favourable comments about the condition of the graveyard and how beautiful a setting it is from those coming from the city. She had lived a long and fulfilled life and while we did not know her here in the absence of a Rector from Dublin as there is currently a vacancy in her parish, the family were very appreciative of the support they received from us.

## Activities

### Study Group

As we continue to work through the issues raised in St. Paul's first Letter to the Church in Corinth this month we will have two meetings on Monday the 5th and Monday the 19th at 8pm in the

Parish Room in Carrickmacross. We hope to continue these meetings through in June before taking a break during the summer months. If anyone would like to suggest a topic they would be interested in coming to discuss when we recommence in the Autumn we would be glad to take such ideas into account as we plan our autumn programme.

## Mothers' Union and Friends

For April we went to the Rectory and talked about the Internet, its good and bad points. We also had time to "surf the net." Our next event will be the end of season night out which will be a meal at the Italian restaurant in Farney Street on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> at 8.30pm, Please let Eleanor Howell know if you are coming.

Next will be the parish barbecue which we are holding at the rectory on 14<sup>th</sup> June. This will be a family event for everyone.

At diocesan level, Rosemary was the speaker at the Diocesan service in Killeevan and gave an excellent talk on Relationships. The diocesan council will be in Enniskillen on 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.30pm and the All Ireland Road Road Show in Armagh will be in the afternoon on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Contact Rosemary if interested.

## Young People

The weekly Junior Table Tennis sessions on Friday nights have now come to an end and we would like to thank those who kept them going over the winter. We would hope to restart again in September.

During the Summer we hope to have activities for our young people about once a month. The first event we hope to get involved in is a fun sports in Monaghan Collegiate School on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7.30pm. If anyone is interested in coming please ring the Rector. The next thing then will be Summer Madness as mentioned next. We advertised this last month but had no response. We would very much like to take a group even if only for a day as this is perhaps the most successful event run each year by the Church of Ireland and has had a big impact on many young people.

## Notices

### Summer Madness

This is the Church of Ireland's major youth event for young people run by the Church of Ireland Youth Council. It is being held this year at the King's Hall Complex at Balmoral Belfast from the 27th June to the 1st July and we would be interested in taking a group, if only for one of the days, to get the idea of how great an event it is. If anyone is interested in coming please let the Rector know.

### Ordinations

Once again this year there will be an ordination service in the diocese. The first will be on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June when D.V. The Rev Alison Seymour-Whitely who is currently assistant minister in Clogher Cathedral will be priested.

### Old Donagh Open-Air

On Sunday 11th May there will be an open air service at this old graveyard

and ruin involving both Bishop Duffy and Bishop Jackson. This has been running for some years and while the main support comes from the Glaslough area the Bishop is keen that the unity that exists between the different church communities who live

## Public Lecture by the Bishop of Jerusalem

*“Reconciliation – in the life  
of Jerusalem today”*

In the Ardhowen Theatre,  
Enniskillen on Thursday 8th  
May at 8.00pm.

Tickets, which are free of  
charge, can be reserved by  
phoning the  
Ardhowen Box Office  
on 048 66 325 440.

near the border should be widely supported in the diocese. The service begins at 3.00pm and will be followed by refreshments provided by the Donagh parish.

### New Wine

This is a renewal and teaching week for all the family which is held each year in Sligo and has grown to be a very big event in the Irish Christian calendar. If anyone is interested in learning more the Rector has brochures available.

## Articles

### Bishop Jackson launches Irish School of Ecumenics Book

Bishop Michael Jackson of Clogher launched a new publication *The Irish School of Ecumenics (1970-2007) Floreat ut Pereat*, edited by Michael Hurley SJ, The Columba Press, 2008 at the ISE Building Belfast on Thursday May 1st 2008.

The Irish School of Ecumenics was an independent institution for 37 years and offered a voice that was both scholarly and prophetic during the period of conflict from the 1970s onwards.

Bishop Jackson paid tribute to the past heads of the School, for the courage and integrity with which they addressed the key issues of the day and for their consistent and persistent work against sectarianism. The ISE is now being integrated with Trinity College Dublin and will continue its work within this new structure.

The text of the Bishop's address deals in detail with the topics raised in the book and offers a response based on his own experience and scholarship.

The Bishop identifies the emerging areas that the ISE and the Churches in Ireland must address in coming years as globalisation, professionalisation, the inter-faith dimension, ecumenism and peace building.

### Broadcast Service

Because of the widely reported incident in Jerusalem during the week where Cardinal Brady, Archbishop Harper of Armagh and the Methodist and

Presbyterian Presidents were refused entry to the wailing Wall area we are all conscious of the peace journey they have been making to the Holy Land.

On Sunday 4 May, RTÉ Radio 1 will broadcast a service of Hope for Peace led by the four Irish Church leaders during their joint pilgrimage to the Holy Land this week. The Most Revd Alan Harper, Cardinal Seán Brady, the Revd Roy Cooper and the Revd Dr John Finlay celebrated a special service of Hope for Peace from Shepherd's Field near Bethlehem on Tuesday 29th April. The service was attended by local Palestinian Christians, including the Bethlehem Lutheran Choir. The service will be broadcast on LW252, Digital Audio Broadcast and online at [www.rte.ie/radio](http://www.rte.ie/radio) at 10.45a.m. on Sunday.