

NEWSLINK

The Magazine of the Church of Ireland United Dioceses of Limerick, Killaloe & Ardfert

INSIDE

Simon Lumby: Creation – Myth or Moth? p.17



The Carrot Washer has landed p.18



Rev John Godfrey - Institution p.19



Thanks & Praise launched p.21



Bishop Kenneth writes p.3

Bishops' Appeal for Refugees p.3

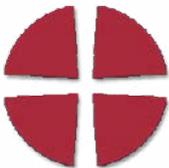
Green Matters in Carrigaline p.6

Salters Sterling: View from the Pew p.7

Diocesan Boundaries p.7

New Lectern & Bible p.18

Community of St Anselm p.21

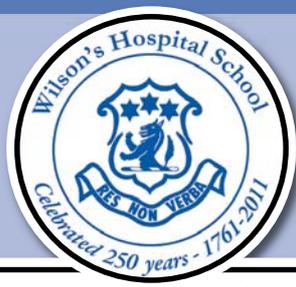


including Methodist District News p. 33

The earth has yielded its harvest - God, our God, has blessed us.

Psalm 67:6





WILSON'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING SECONDARY SCHOOL

Under the patronage of Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland



- Outstanding academic record and progression to Third Level
- Convenient yet rural location set on 200 acres, just off the M4/N4, less than 10 minutes west of Mullingar
- 450 pupils (300 boarders; 150 Day pupils)
- Pastoral Care, school nurses and doctor, 24 hour supervision including active night time care
- Bedrooms contain 3 or 4 beds
- School Chaplain, Sunday night Chapel service, Morning Assembly, Award-Winning Choir
- Lifelong friendships established
- Five day teaching week – extensive weekend recreational programme
- Choice of 20 subjects to Leaving Certificate level
- Staff supervise all study. Emphasis on career guidance. Academic focus
- New classroom block officially opened August 2013
- New sports pitches officially opened April 2014
- Wide range of indoor and outdoor recreational activities, team and individual sports
- Seven day boarding fee: €7,767 (less than €150 payable with max. SEC grant)
- Extensive programme of grants, bursaries and scholarships



For further information and prospectus, contact

The Principal,
Mrs Rosemary Maxwell-Eager,
BA(Mod), HDE, MEd.

www.whs.ie

WILSON'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL, MULTYFARNHAM, CO. WESTMEATH
Tel: 044 - 9371115 Fax: 044 - 9371563 Email: wilsonsh@whs.ie

Bishop Kenneth writes

THE REFUGEE CRISIS.

The Refugee crisis only worsens day by day, and the suffering and misery continues. I spent last week (as I write) at a number of meetings in Church House in Dublin and the refugee crisis was high on the agenda of almost every meeting. This carried on into a joint meeting with the Roman Catholic bishops all day Thursday, again seeking to co-ordinate our responses.

A number of steps have already been taken. As you will know our Primate has called for regular prayer in our Churches for those caught in the middle of the crisis. Each Church has been asked to have at least one special collection for the refugees in the near future, and the proceeds should be forwarded to Bishops' Appeal, which has altered its normal remit in the two-thirds world to include the situation in Central Europe, the Mediterranean and the Near East.

The next issue is how the Churches can harness the waves of goodwill and offers of practical help coming from all quarters. In considering this we recognise that Churches work best in the long haul with personal and practical support, integration into schools and communities, and help with issues such as language skills. The Churches will take their time over this, as the first priority is to hold the State agencies to their commitments and responsibilities. The Irish State does not have a good record in this (remember the Hungarian refugees or the Vietnamese Boat people).

So our response, in co-ordination with other churches, will be measured and long term. I'll try to share information as I get it.

EVENTS AND APPOINTMENTS

I'm pleased to say that the Honorary Secretaries of the Church of Ireland have chosen Limerick as the venue for the General Synod 4th – 6th May 2017 (note the year!). This is the first time ever our diocese has been asked to host General Synod and it is a great honour to have

been chosen. We've plenty of time to plan for this major event.

I've appointed the new Rector of Aughrim, Rev. John Godfrey as Diocesan Communications Officer, and I look forward to working with him in this role, together with Joc Sanders, our Newslink editor, and Revd Dr Keith Scott our website manager, as we promote both our internal and external communications.



Primary Schools are very important to us in the Diocese, and I have created a new role – Bishop's Advisor on Education and Schools, and have asked Jackie McNair, Chaplain at Villiers School to serve in this role. I'm delighted he has accepted – he will mainly work through the Diocesan Board of Education.

Finally I look forward to welcoming Revd Phyllis Jones from the Diocese of Salisbury to serve as Assistant Priest in Tralee Group of Parishes. Her welcome service will be in Camp on Thursday 8th October next. Do please remember her in your prayers as she prepares to move house and begin a new ministry among us.

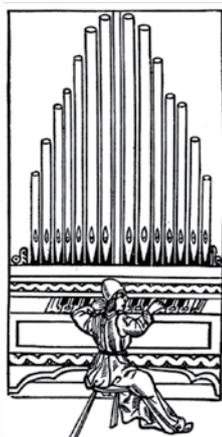
With all good wishes.

Sincerely,
+Kenneth

The Rt. Revd. Kenneth Kearon
Bishop of Limerick & Killaloe
Rian Roe, Adare, Co. Limerick
Tel: + 353 (0)61 396244
Email: bishop@limerick.anglican.org

O'Donovan Pipe Organs

Tuning & Overhauls, Restoration, Installations.



*Recent works include: Rathkeale Parish Church,
Buttevant Parish Church, Former Jesuit Church
Limerick.*

Call Pdraig on 023-8838802 or 086-155 0033

Address: Gurrane, Ballineen, Co. Cork

Email: odonovanorgans@gmail.com

www.odonovanorgans.com

Diocesan Calendar

(for updates see Diocesan web site – www.limerick.anglican.org)

Thu 1st Oct	Sale of Work, The Abbey Hall, Roscrea
Thu 8th Oct, 8pm	Service of Welcome for Rev Phyllis Jones, Kilgobbin Church
Thu 8th Oct, 7.30pm	Mothers' Union Opening Service, St Mary's Church, Shinrone
Sat 10th Oct, 8pm	Storytelling in Aghancon Hall
Tue 13th Oct, 8pm	All Saints Church, Castleconnell, Classical Concert by Zaïde Quartet
Thu 15th Oct, 7.30pm	Diocesan Council (meet with CEMS) Woodlands Hotel, Adare
Thu 15th Oct,	Whist Drive in Aghancon Hall
Sun 18th Oct, 1pm	Sunday Lunch in aid of church funds, Aghancon Hall (followed by Harvest Festival)
Sat 24th–Mon 26th Oct	CIYD Anois 2015, Wilson's Hospital School, Multyfarnham, Co. Westmeath (secondary upwards)
Tue 3rd Nov, 8pm	Mission Evening, Woodlands Hotel, Adare
Fri 6th–Sun 8th Nov	UDYC Junior Weekend, Castledaly Camp & Conference Centre, Athlone, Co. Westmeath (10–13 year olds)
Sat 21st Nov	Mothers' Union Diocesan Trustee & Council Meetings
Sun 22nd Nov	Mission Sunday

Editorial-Christian Communities **Newslink**

Last month we saw how our cathedrals and churches might find new life as part of a growing network of Christian communities welcoming and nurturing pilgrims. But of course there's much more than that to being a Christian community.

This month Salters Sterling talks of 'communities of the Friends of Jesus' (see page 7). By this lovely phrase I understand all kinds of Christian congregations from every tradition, not just Church of Ireland parishes. Each congregation is unique, has its own personality – even within the same parish group or union. What unites all our congregations is our common aspiration to be Friends of Jesus, which means we listen to the words of Jesus – and act accordingly, in the context in which we find ourselves.

Jesus tells us we must love God with all our heart, all our soul and all our mind, and we must love our neighbours as ourselves (Matthew 22:37-39). So we choose to join together in joyful worship whenever we are able, and we look around us for opportunities to serve others, as Jesus did – to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit the prisoner (Matthew 25:31-46). We don't all have to worship in the same way, and each congregation can value its own worship tradition. And we won't all choose the same way to show our love for our neighbours either, but love and serve them we must.

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has taken the initiative to bring together 36 young men and women from different countries and Christian traditions in a new 'Community of Friends of Jesus' – the Community of St Anselm (see page 21). Based in London they will spend a year praying, studying ethics and theology, and serving the poorest in local communities. May the Community of St Anselm be blessed with fruitfulness.

The Commission on Ministry has proposed establishing a Church of Ireland Centre of Community Prayer, Hospitality & Study to mark the 150th anniversary of Disestablishment. Wouldn't it be marvellous if a similarly inclusive new Community of young people were at the heart of it!

God bless, Joc Sanders



"Er...Rector?... you're a praying man, aren't you?..."

Newslink is the diocesan magazine for the United Diocese of Limerick, Killaloe & Ardfer, which also includes the historic dioceses of Aghadoe, Clonfert, Emlly, Kilfenora and Kilmacduagh. For further information about the United Dioceses see the diocesan web site: www.limerick.anglican.org.

Newslink also covers Methodist Midlands and Southern District Circuits within the boundaries of the Church of Ireland Diocese.

Editor

In addition to news from parishes, schools and diocesan organisations, the Editor is delighted to receive articles and letters for publication, as well as suggestions as to how Newslink may be improved.

Please note: names and addresses of contributors must be given, and all letters printed will include name and address unless otherwise agreed with the Editor. All material dealing with parish/circuit matters must first be cleared with the Minister concerned.

Contact details:

Joc Sanders
Turravagaun, Dromineer,
Nenagh, Co Tipperary
Tel: 067 24987 Mob: 087 699 6775
Email: newslink@limerick.anglican.org

Newslink is printed by **Davis Printers**,
Unit 6, Crossagala Enterprise Centre, Ballysimon Rd, Limerick

Deadlines

The next issue will be for November 2015, published for Sunday 1st November.

All material must reach the Editor by Friday 16th October 2015 before 6.00pm, by email only, unless otherwise agreed.

Late material cannot be guaranteed insertion.

NEWSLINK ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2015

(unchanged from 2014, for 10 issues, new subscriptions pro rata)

- Delivered to pew in bulk €37
- Individual copy by post €45
- Collected from printer in bulk €30

(contact: Peter Schutz, Ardhu, Castletroy, Co. Limerick,
Email: peterschuetz@gmail.com)

NEWSLINK ADVERTISING RATES FOR 2015

(unchanged from 2013)

	Rate per annum (Euro) (payable in advance)		Rate per single issue (Euro)	
	10 x Colour	10 x B&W	Colour	B&W
Full Page	1193	1069	154	143
Half Page	596	534	77	71
Quarter Page	299	268	39	36
Eighth Page	149	133	19	18

Prayer Corner

Partners in Prayer - October 2015

Each Sunday

Church of Ireland: The Diocese of Cashel, Ferns & Ossory and Bishop Michael Burrows.

Companion Dioceses: The five Dioceses of the Protestant Church of Anhalt, Germany.

4th October, Trinity 18, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Sunyani, Ghana, West Africa and Rt Revd Dr Festus Yeboah-Asuamah, Bishop of Sunyani.

Diocese: The farming Community throughout our United Diocese, giving thanks for a good year and celebrating the harvest of the land.

11th October, Trinity 19, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Tamale, Ghana, West Africa and Rt Revd Dr Jacob Ayebo, Bishop of Tamale.

Diocese: Rev Phyllis Jones and the parishes of Camp and Dingle following her Service of Welcome as priest-in-charge in Kilgobbin Church on 8th October.

18th October, Trinity 20, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of the Arctic, Rupert's Land, Canada, Rt Revd David Parsons Bishop of the Diocese of the Arctic, and Suffragan Bishop Rt Revd Darren McCartney

Diocese: Individuals and organisations working to support refugees and migrants in our United Dioceses, among them Doras Luimní.

25th October, Trinity 21, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Tohoku, Japan) and Rt Revd John Hiromichi Kato, Bishop of Tohoku & The Diocese of Tokyo, Japan and Rt Revd Andrew Yoshimichi Ohata, Bishop of Tokyo

Diocese: Individuals and communities working to support the homeless in our United Dioceses, among them the Simon Community.

1st November, All Saints, White

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Truro, England, Rt Revd Timothy Thornton, Bishop of Truro, and Rt Revd Christopher David Goldsmith, Suffragan Bishop of St Germans

Diocese: Those in our United Dioceses mourning the death of a loved one, that they may be comforted by Christ's healing touch.

A Prayer of Saint Benedict

Gracious and Holy Father,
Give us wisdom to perceive you,
Intelligence to understand you,
Diligence to seek you,
Patience to wait for you,
Vision to behold you,
A heart to meditate on you,
A life to proclaim you,
Through the power of the Holy Spirit
of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



**“Prayer in action is love,
love in action is service.”**

Mother Teresa

A Prayer for Refugees

Lord God of wilderness, wave and wind,
you travel with the wanderers of the world.
Stay close, we pray, to all who live
with loss, in terror, and adrift,
and spur us on to build a world
where there is truly room for all.

Lord Jesus, you came among us
homeless, and as a refugee.
Shake our complacency,
rekindle our compassion,
and help us challenge our leaders
to forge a common strategy
that is both truly just, and fair.
For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Bishops' Appeal: Call for Prayer, Engagement and Collections in Response to Refugee Crisis

*'And you are to love the stranger, for you were once strangers'
Deuteronomy 10:19*

As large scale conflict and economic destitution pushes thousands of people to travel perilously to find refuge, Archbishop Richard Clarke and Archbishop Michael Jackson call on members of the Church of Ireland to respond as an integral action of Christian faith and welcome.

The Church's response is three-fold. We invite parishes and individuals to participate in as many ways as they deem able. We recognise the local responses that many individuals and parishes have already undertaken and thank people for their compassion and action.

1. Pray for the people who are displaced and traumatised, that they receive peace, security and welcome. Pray for all those who have lost loved ones in the conflict or through drowning in the Mediterranean. Pray for empathy and wisdom for the European governments as they make decisions on how to respond to the crisis.
2. Engage with political representatives in order to encourage governments to show courage and leadership in their responsibilities to refugees and to expand provision of refuge and resettlement to people who are fleeing. You can do this by writing to or seeking to meet with your local TD or MP. You could also join with one of the campaigns organised by charities and agencies working actively in these fields.
3. Hold a special or a retiring collection to respond to the needs of refugees fleeing Syria and Iraq both at their own borders and at European borders. These funds can be sent through Bishops' Appeal and will be dispersed to agencies such as Christian Aid which is responding directly to the need of 12.2 million people in Syria and 4 million refugees in neighbouring Iraq and Lebanon as well as directing funds to NGOs responding to the need in EU countries.

For more information contact Lydia Monds, Education Advisor,
Bishops' Appeal: bishopsappeal@ireland.anglican.org

Care for Creation - Green Matters in Carrigaline Union

by Rev Elaine Murray

The Carrigaline Union of Parishes in the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross (Church of Ireland) has been undertaking eco initiatives for several years and well deserves the award it received from Eco-Congregation Ireland in November 2014! Many thanks to their rector, Rev Elaine Murray, for telling us about what they have been doing:

We began our journey to becoming an eco-congregation when we downloaded 'An Environmental Check up for your Church' from the Eco-Congregation Ireland website. Our Select Vestry voted unanimously to support the initiative that environmental issues and caring for God's creation form part of our parish's life and mission.

This was followed immediately by a Creation-themed service. Some ideas for this service were copied from the resources available on the Eco-Congregation website.

The next step was informing all of the parishioners what we were doing, which was achieved through the weekly pew sheet and on our parish website. We have a section called 'Green Matters' in our page on the diocesan magazine where we let people know what has been happening and look for suggestions as to what we can do to become a greener parish.

Several initiatives have come about:

- We bought new bins and began separating recyclable items.
- We stopped buying plastic cups and cutlery and began using the existing delph in the cupboard.
- We sourced 'green' 100% compostable cups, plates and napkins for big events (like the Flower Festival and the Parish Fete) and these are then put into the Rectory compost bin. Eco 4
- The Rector became involved in the Parish School's Green Flag initiative. This resulted in our annual sponsored Parish/School walk joining up with An Taisce's Spring Clean initiative. All of the participants picked up rubbish as they walked. Several bags of rubbish were then collected free of charge by the local Council.
- The children brought toy tractors and ploughing equipment into church for the special Rogation Sunday Service, which celebrated the planting of seeds in Spring. Normally, we only think about the earth in this way in the Autumn at Harvest Time; this way we appreciate the whole cycle.
- A donkey joins us for our annual Palm Sunday Service in Carrigaline and, together with 'Billy the Donkey', the entire congregation walks out of the church, down the road, through the housing estate, into the rectory grounds and through the graveyard back into the Church.
- On Easter Sunday we join with our sister church in Monkstown for an ecumenical dawn service, which sees us celebrating the Risen Christ out of doors by the sea.
- We had a Flower Festival at Pentecost in Carrigaline, celebrating all the wonderful diversity of flowers. The theme was 'The Fruit of the Spirit'. Plants were sold at this event and we advertised the availability of allotments in our local community.
- The Sunday School children are all given sunflower seeds and compete to see who can grow the tallest sunflower!
- A major job was done on the rectory garden, which had been left to its own devices for many years. We began by felling some trees which were in a dangerous state (it is interesting to note

that in the Church of Ireland, we must apply to the diocesan property committee for permission to fell trees on church land, giving good reason for felling them and committing to planting trees in their stead – a great safeguard for our tree population!) The logs were sold within the parish to bear some of the costs of the renovation. The remainder of the logs will be used in the rectory during the winter.

- We planted bee-friendly shrubs, hedging and fruit trees.
- The entire garden usage was revised and two separate 'allotment' type areas were developed to grow vegetables. A composting area was set up. At the time of writing this report, all of these efforts are 'bearing fruit': we have a lovely productive garden buzzing with bees and butterflies and the rectory family are enjoying the 'fruit of our labour'
- The wider parish benefit too from the rejuvenated rectory grounds as a parish picnic is held at the start of each summer and a barbeque in September.
- The parish supports several developmental charities, including Christian Aid, US and Feed the Minds.
- It is hoped to use our parish hall as a 'community market' each Saturday morning by encouraging local producers to set up stalls to sell their wares, especially things like 'ugly' fruit and vegetables that supermarkets will not purchase from them. Our congregation includes honey producers, bakers, egg producers and soap-makers as well as farmers and market gardeners.

On receiving their Eco-Congregation award, Rev Elaine Murray said: "Over the past two years, by making practical changes in our parish life, we have tried, as a community, to live more lightly on the earth and it means a lot to us to have our efforts recognised in this way by an organisation like Eco-Congregation Ireland. We feel that this award is only the beginning: we hope to continue to adjust our individual lives and the life of our congregation. We can continue to learn so much from the online resources available through Eco-Congregation and from other parishes who are also on this journey. We would heartily recommend the Eco-Congregation website's many resources, if you feel that this is something that might benefit you and your church congregation."

Well done Carrigaline and good luck as you continue on your eco journey!



Carrigaline Union receiving their award from Eco-Congregation Ireland

A View from the Pew - Being Friends of Jesus

by Salters Sterling



There have been at least two coincidences since I wrote the last column and both of them highly pertinent to our journey on the road of surprises. On the first Sunday in September the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel could hardly have been more relevant. The affirmation "Faith without Works is dead" went to the heart of the challenge of 10s of 1,000s of refugee migrants pouring across the borders in south-east Europe. On the second Sunday the Gospel was that

conversation between Jesus and his Friends in which Jesus asks them "whom do folk say that I am" and they reply, "some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, others one of the Prophets" with Jesus responding "and you, who do you say I am?" To which Peter blurts out "the Christ, the Son of the living God". "Keep it quiet" retorts Jesus. The relevance of this glimpse of the Master is that all those Diocesan Meetings affirmed that they wanted their parishes to be "Christ-centred". As I wrote that down on the flip charts I was even then wondering to myself is that what people mean or do they mean "Jesus-centred". And you might reasonably ask is there a difference. And I must reply that there is.

That Faith once delivered to the Apostles, which we have now received and must pass on, is a Faith that is found within history and that functions within history. What we know of God we know especially in a man who was born and reared, lived and worked, taught and healed, died and was raised from the dead at a specific time, in a specific place, with real live people. His name was and is Jesus or - perhaps nearer to what he was actually called - Joshua. And by the way Christ is not his surname. It's more like a trade name, just like Paddy the Potter - Joshua the Christ - Joshua the Anointed for that is what Christ means in Greek. When we read the Acts of the Apostles Luke keeps telling us "This same Jesus will come again" and again "This same Jesus whom you crucified God raised from the dead". His friends could not escape the actuality of his real physical person and we should certainly not try.

The world in which we live knows little and cares less about the multidimensional richness of meaning contained in the word Christ and I may come back to that at some future stage. In my experience the world has a lot of time for Jesus, particularly the young. This man, this Rabbi Joshua of Nazareth, makes sense for them. They have a lot of time for him when they learn about him. Their altruism is energised by his profoundly caring career. Their imaginations are fired by his escapades in befriending the social outcast. So much of his teaching makes sense to them in a world in which they manifestly see the rich exploiting the poor. His capacity to cut through bureaucracy makes them green with envy and they would love to be like him. His capacity to understand people amazes them. His willingness to face death for what he believes gives them a sense of what commitment and purpose both mean. And like the crowds that gathered round him and followed him up the Mountain and across the Lake they want more. Or at least some of them do, for now as then he isn't everybody's cup of tea. That of course is the person's own choice - it is not ours. Ours is to ensure that they have the chance to hear the story; that the story is well told; that the story is enacted in how we live as communities of the Friends of Jesus, and as individual Friends of Jesus wherever we are.

Learning to speak of Jesus as well as live like Jesus is hugely important. It is learned when having listened to him we start to question him, particularly when the questions we ask him are those that come to us out of the tensions, agonies, sufferings and distresses of this present world, which His Father loves and for which Jesus died and is dying. I suggest we start with questions about the homeless in Ireland and the refugees coming out of the near and not so near East and North Africa. We should remember that the pat answers that come to us about dossers and economic migrants, about other people's problems, about charity beginning at home, about aid not going to those for whom it was intended are only the beginning of the conversation. If you and I are talking to the same Jesus I can assure you there will be a realm of much more challenging elements in the dialogue. That's why some of his acquaintances called him a Prophet and his friends searched more deeply and called him the Christ. More next time.

Diocesan Boundaries

Discerning the Mind of the United Dioceses by Joc Sanders

In June Bishop Kenneth established a Working Group (WG) of Diocesan Council convened by Joc Sanders with Ed Hardy, Caleb Clarke, Frank Sheahan and Adrian Hilliard to examine the proposals for change emanating from the Commission on Episcopal Ministry & Structures (CEMS) and discern the 'mind of the dioceses'. We see our role as to hold up a mirror to reflect the views of people and clergy, in order to help Diocesan Council decide how to respond to the CEMS proposals. The WG has met 3 times and worked productively to prepare a report, which was presented to Diocesan Council for discussion on 10th September.

We collected data in 2 ways:

1. Through a questionnaire focussed on the examples of restructuring presented by CEMS, completed by many attending Diocesan Synod, supplemented by additional responses solicited via the diocesan website, Newlink and through incumbents: 73 responses in total; and
2. Through a separate questionnaire to clergy, focussed on the approach taken by CEMS: 11 responses in total.

We are grateful to all those who responded. While the data is inevitably patchy in quality and sample sizes are small, we believe it adequately and accurately captures the views of Synod members, parishioners and clergy.

The main conclusions are as follows:

- A majority in all dioceses would prefer no change to the boundaries of the United Dioceses.
- The combined voices seem to say: "we are happy, leave it as it is" "what is the imperative for change?"
- If changes are to be made, most would prefer the United Dioceses to remain intact.
- Clonfert & Killaloe dioceses in particular wish to remain together.
- In the Clonfert diocese a respondent in the Aughrim & Creagh Unions notes that the Ardrahan area favours closer ties with Galway, which would also be good for Aughrim and Ballinasloe.
- A large minority (29-42%) in Ardfer, comprising most of Kerry, would be happy to join with Cork, Cloyne & Ross, provided they are not separated from Limerick & Killaloe. This rises to a majority of the 4 respondents in the 2 Unions of Kilcolman and Kenmare.
- Many in Ardfer are concerned about loss of identity if merged with Cork alone, and look more north-east to Limerick than east to Cork.
- There are significant concerns about the effect of the large geographical size of new dioceses: about the capacity of bishops to minister effectively and maintain civic visibility, as well as their welfare; about travel times to diocesan meetings; and about opportunities to gather as a Diocese being inhibited.
- There are unanswered questions about where new dioceses might be centred and concerns that major city regions may be left

- without a bishop to represent the Church of Ireland.
- There is suspicion that the CEMS terms of reference are flawed or deficient, and questions about CEMS understanding of the reality of life in the Southern Province.
- There is huge concern about the rationale for making changes, in particular the 15k population/30 cure minimum limits, and whether or not the intention is cost savings.
- A large majority of diocesan clergy respondents are unhappy with the current approach and proposals of CEMS. Many would prefer to see a programme of change within current diocesan boundaries to make the dioceses fit for purpose, viable in terms of resources and relevant to parishioners.
- The view is widely held by diocesan clergy that CEMS should study and learn from the experience of the Church in Wales and other Anglican churches, and the Methodist Church in Ireland. The Church in Wales has rejected wholesale changes to dioceses as a distraction from other necessary urgent changes.

Following extensive discussion it is clear that Diocesan Council is opposed to the wholesale changes to diocesan boundaries implied by the approach being taken by CEMS. However Diocesan Council would be prepared to examine on its merits any case made for modest extensions to boundaries by CEMS or a neighbouring diocese. Representatives of CEMS will meet with Diocesan Council on 15th October to discuss the way forward.

Diocesan Organisations

Girls Friendly Society

Welcome everybody to a new year of GFS in the Diocese. Hope you all had a lovely summer.

CLOUGHJORDAN BRANCH

Welcome everybody to a new year at Cloughjordan G.F.S.! What better way to begin than with ice-cream? We all enjoyed our creamy ice-cream topped off with delicious sauce and sprinkles and agreed that it was a great way to start. Lots of lively chatter followed and the girls enjoyed dancing with Michelle.

ROSCREA BRANCH

The girls are looking forward to a new season which begins in October. We all welcome Karen St. Leger as the new Branch Leader/Secretary and Madeleine Hodgins as Treasurer. We wish them well for the year.

BIRR BRANCH

GFS started back on Tuesday 15th September and we had great fun making Grass Heads and planting bulbs for Spring which will both be part of our Environmental & Nature Study Badge. The other badge we will be working on during the year is our Floral Art badge. There will be work starting on our competition Crafts and Bible Study at our next meeting and our Opening Service will be held in the Methodist Church on 18th October at 12 noon.

All girls are welcome to join the Birr GFS branch which meets in Oxmantown School on alternate Tuesdays at 3pm-4.30pm.

NENAGH BRANCH

Meetings will commence on Saturday, 3rd October in the Back Vestry of St. Mary's Church, Nenagh. Time – 11am to 1pm. Full details from Rose Langley 087-6758896. All girls are welcome to join.

ALL IRELAND TRAINING DAY:

All Ireland training took place in Abbeyleix on Saturday, 12th September. 13 leaders from Killaloe and Clonfert Diocese attended. There was a lot of information available on current craft and bible study syllabus. Aisling O'Halloran from the Irish Girl Guides addressed the group and spoke about 'belonging to a female organisation'. Leaders thanked Sylvia Quinn, All Ireland President, and all involved for hosting the event.

DIOCESAN FUN DAY, NENAGH, 19TH SEPTEMBER 2015

The Diocesan Fun Day was held in Nenagh this year. This is the 2nd year of the Fun Day, last year was in Cloughjordan. 30 girls from the branches enjoyed their day in Nenagh. They started off with hip hop dancing with Michelle Richardson from MY School of Music, Nenagh. Girls and leaders learnt some new dance moves and got some great exercise as well!

The girls then worked on their 'Garden on a Plate' projects, with great enthusiasm and creativity. Some girls had put so much thought into the day they had drawn up plans for their gardens and brought items to enhance them. It is always lovely to see the girls having fun together at a Diocesan event – renewing old friendships and starting new ones. As you can see from the photograph every garden was different and wonderful – such talent in GFS.

The day concluded with refreshments provided by Nenagh branch leaders, parents and friends. The Diocese sends a very big thank you to all the leaders and girls who attended. It was truly a great day out with lots of fun and laughter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Diocesan Council Meeting will take place in the Rectory, Birr on Thursday, 12th November at 8 pm. This is the first meeting for our new officers so we hope everyone will be there to support them in their new roles in GFS. We wish Norma-Jean Carney, President; Michelle Armitage, Secretary and Linda Gill, Treasurer every success and support for the next 3 years.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

GFS will once again take part in the Christmas Tree festival in Nenagh. Details will be finalised at Council Meeting.

Leaders and girls in all the branches are very busy getting started on the Bible Study and Craft Syllabus for 2015/6

Diocesan Craft Syllabus:

Age 3-5: make a "One String Pasta and Bead Necklace"

Age 5-7: make a Button Picture.

Age 7-9: make and decorate A Pair of Ear Muffs

Age 9-11: make a Pencil Case

Age 11-13: make a Cushion

Age 13-15: make a Cushion Cover

Age 15-21: design a formal dress

Townsend Members: make a Cross Stitch Picture.

More details are available from the leaders.

Wishing everyone lots of fun and friendship in GFS for the coming year.



Fun Day - hip hop dancing



Fun Day - Gardens on Plates

Boys' Brigade



1ST NENAGH COMPANY

SUMMER OUTING CRAGGAUNOWEN 12TH SEPTEMBER

The Summer Outing was a massive success – the boys took the bus out to Craggaunowen a 16th Century Castle in Co. Clare for the day. The name Craggaunowen derives from its Irish name Creagán Eoghain which means Owen's little rocky hill. The open-air museum was started by John Hunt. It features reconstructions of ancient Irish architecture, including a dolmen, a crannog, and a currach boat 'Brendan Boat' built by Tim Severin who sailed from Ireland to Newfoundland, re-enacting the voyage of St. Brendan, reputed to have discovered America centuries before Columbus. It also shows reconstructions of a Ringfort, Fulachta Fia, Bronze Age cooking and industrial site and a Standing Stone (Ogham Stone).



Team Entering Craggaunowen

Highlights were the tour around the open air archaeological museum which was run by a fun and informative tour guide giving insights into the medieval and earlier ways of life, a far cry from the modern day comforts which we are all used to!



Around cooking fire Craggaunowen

The weather, unbelievably, stayed fine for the day. The boys all enjoyed lunch out with the sunshine and then returned to Nenagh to work it off in the play park!

Thanks go to Nichola Hayes for the effort and organisation of a great fun and educational day out. A date for the diary, Boys Brigade is back on 22nd September at 6pm for more information contact Lisa Drummond lisadrum@eircom.net

For further information or questions please contact Alanna Carty 086 274 1539 alannarosejulian@hotmail.com

DERRY VISIT

On Tuesday 14th July we were delighted to welcome five Trustees from our Link Diocese, Derry and Raphoe, to the Birr/ Roscrea end of our Diocese.

That evening they met with some of our Trustees and Diocesan President for an informal meal and chat.

Wednesday morning began with a visit to Lough Boora Wildlife Park near Kilcormac, for a short 3k walk through the flowers and fauna of reclaimed bog, before returning to Birr for lunch.

Many thanks to Lady Rosse for the enjoyable tour of Birr Castle, and to Archdeacon and Mrs Carney for afternoon tea. The day finished with a meal in Aghancon Hall organised by the younger ladies and gents for over thirty friends and members. After the meal the Kinsella Family, a local group, entertained all with music and song.

Thursday began with a visit to St Anne's, Roscrea, where Mr Adrian Hewson told the history of the place, as it was here that St. Cronan had his first Monastery, and in the mid 1900s it was known as Sean Ross House, a home for Mothers and Babies and it was here that Philomena Lee was [the film Philomena] when she had to give up her son. Adrian showed us his grave. We then went to Roscrea Church where Rev. Jane Galbraith celebrated the Eucharist, and Adrian told the history of St. Cronan's Church. This was followed by a lunch provided by Roscrea members in the Methodist Hall which was followed by a visit of Roscrea Castle and Damer House a little bit of shopping.

That evening we travelled to Mt St Joseph, where the Cistercian Monks have been for over 100 years, and Father Laurence, a former Lord Abbot, took us on a tour and told the history of the Monastery, unfortunately we were not able to do the outside tour due to the weather but we all went to the dining hall for a meal which was a chance to relax and chat to our visitors.

Our guests stayed at the homes of Doreen and Robert Roe, Heather and Leslie Evans and Leslie and Ina Blackwell.

Much was covered over the few days and Ina Blackwell, Diocesan President would like to thank all who helped in any way especially Trustee members Doreen, Florence, Heather, Jean, Betty, Margaret and Rev. Ruth, as the success of the visit would not have been possible if everyone had not co-operated in so many ways.

TRAINING DAY

On Saturday September 12th, the Diocesan Mothers' Union of Limerick and Killaloe held a Training Day in Dooley's Hotel in Birr Co. Offaly.

Twenty four members attended the Training Day and during the meeting several members of the Diocesan Council gave very interesting and informative talks covering Action and Outreach, Finance and Central Services, Marketing, Health and Safety requirements and Finance.

Mrs Ina Blackwell commented, that this meeting was to help those who attended to understand how Mothers' Union works, not only in our branches but further afield, and how what we do at branch level affects so many other people. Even what we consider very little can mean so much to many others, for example, hospital bags,

premature baby bonnets, hampers, Carol singing, Mums in May tea parties etc.

Part of the meeting was to help us to find ways to invite new members to join us and to encourage lapsed members back into the MU family. Organising our meetings to attract new members and to INSPIRE new ideas for all of us to participate in.

Many thanks to Dooley's Hotel for facilitating the meeting and for an excellent meal afterwards.



L-R Doreen Roe, Betty Delahunt, Florence Reid, Ina Blackwell DP, Margaret Schutz, Lucy Kavanagh and Rose Langley



Samples of crafts made by MU members.

NOTICES

YOUNG MEMBERS CONFERENCE October 9th/10th please contact your Enrolling member for further details.

DIOCESAN TRUSTEE AND COUNCIL MEETING – November 21st in Aghancon at 10am (Trustees meet first followed by Council meeting)

United Diocesan Youth Council

FUNDRAISING CAR TREASURE HUNTS

by Valerie Walker

On Saturday the 29th of August, the first of the UDYC Car Treasure Hunts and Barbecues was held in St. Nicholas' Hall in Adare. Participants enjoyed a well put together Car Treasure Hunt driving from the outskirts of Adare, through Croom and Patrickswell. The competition was tight. The winning team included Adam Gardiner, Emma Gardiner, Cian O'Halloran and Valerie Walker. The Car Treasure Hunt was followed by an enjoyable barbecue.



BBQ Fun Adare

The following Saturday, the 5th of September, UDYC held another fundraiser. This time it was held in Aghancon Community Hall in Roscrea. The Car Treasure Hunt was even more challenging this time. The well-earned winner was Robert Armitage followed by Clare Drought in second and Mervyn Gee in third. This was followed by another tasty barbecue and an enjoyable disco.



Helpers & Friends Aghancon

Thank you to all who attended, helped out and brought beautiful home baking to both of these events.

FUTURE EVENTS

Taking a Leading Role – Part 2

The second weekend for 12 participants will take place from Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th October 2015 at Clarecare in Lahinch. We look forward to a full report on the event next month.

ANOIS - "RISK TAKERS"

ANOIS is an annual residential camp organised by the Church of Ireland Youth Department for young people of secondary school age from across Ireland. The event will take place at Wilson's Hospital School, Multyfarnham, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath from Saturday 24th October – Monday 26th October 2015 (Bank Holiday weekend). There will be return transport from many locations countrywide including Limerick, Nenagh & Roscrea.

The Main Speaker will be Alex Brown (Scripture Union, Isle of Man), with Worship led by Mark Ferguson Band. The theme chosen for this

year's event is "Risk Takers". This year at worship times there will be opportunities to explore together stories of young people in the Bible who were courageous in their faith. Their stories will hopefully help everyone consider what it means for us to have a true and courageous faith ourselves in 2015.

And of course there are all the usual fun packed activities. If you're up for the challenge and adventure ANOIS provides, come along this year – you'll not regret it!

JUNIOR WEEKEND 2015

The UDYC Junior Weekend is scheduled to take place from Friday 6th – Sunday 8th November at Castledaly Camp & Conference Centre, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. This weekend is for those aged 10–13 years. The cost will be €80, plus €20 for return transport from Limerick, Nenagh, Moneygall, Roscrea & Birr if required.

As with all UDYC events an action packed programme will be on offer which will include some of the following: Creative Worship Times, Icebreaker Games, Day trip to Galway City, Karting at Galway City Karting, Aquarium, Swimming at Leisureland Galway with Inflatables, Indoor & Outdoor Soccer, Bingo, Table Quiz, Crazy & Messy Games, Disco, Good Food and much, much more!!

For more information on any of our events or activities, please contact Edward (087) 2907553 or Henry on (086) 2235755, Email: udyc@limerick.anglican.org or visit our website (<http://udyc.ie/>) or our UDYC Facebook page.

Diocesan Board Of Mission

At the meeting of the Board on 16th. Sept, the following decisions were taken:

MISSION SUNDAY 2015 TO BE 22ND NOVEMBER

Having been shown pictures of the container arriving safely in Swaziland and the carrot washer installed and in use, it was decided to close 'the books' on the Luyengo Farm Project, over €55,000 having been contributed from the United Diocese over the past 5 years.

Due to on going unrest and civil wars in the Middle East, it was decided to support a project within the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem which extends over five countries including Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Israel within the Province of Jerusalem & the Middle East. More specific details will appear in the Nov. edition of Newslink.

Last year the Board of Mission introduced the concept of giving each parish union/group the option of donating 20% of their Mission Sunday collection to a charity within their community. It was decided to repeat this exercise for Mission Sunday 2015, with the recommendation that parishes could increase their donation to local charities to 40%, especially if there were refugees requiring assistance within their area.

MISSION EVENINGS were agreed for the following dates:

Tue 3rd Nov. 2015, when we hope to have a presentation on our project for Mission Sunday – Woodlands Hotel, Adare, at 8pm.

Wed 3rd Feb 2016, when we hope to have a presentation on one of the community projects.

Wed 6th April 2016, when we will invite a speaker from the Methodist Church to join us.

Wed 8th June 2016, Subject to be advised.

It was also decided to hold the Mission Evenings in various locations around the United Diocese, starting with the first one on 4th Nov. in the Woodlands Hotel, Adare.....so watch this space!!

Archdeacon Wayne Carney (Chair)
David Frizelle (Secretary / Treasurer)

SCHOOL NEWS

St. Nicholas' National School, Adare

School re-opened on Tuesday 1st September when we welcomed Conor, Kahlan, Róisín, Grace, Owen, Florie, Vuyo, Mark, Kainoa and Theo to Junior Infants, Aaron to 2nd class and Aoife to 4th class. We hope that all new pupils will settle in well and will have many happy years here.

Thank you to Rev. Liz who welcomed us back to a new school year at a service in the church on September 10th.

Swimming classes have begun at Askeaton Swimming Pool for pupils in 1st to 6th classes and these will continue until mid-term break.

We welcomed new parents to school on Wednesday evening 9th September to introduce our Bookworm Club, Mata le Chéile and Jolly Phonics programme.

We enjoyed participating in the Harvest Thanksgiving service in St. Nicholas' Church on September 25th when the children sang a lively "Sing a Song of Harvest"

To celebrate 'Culture Evening', the senior pupils were invited to Adare Library to hear some extracts from local book 'Billy's Adare' read by Mr. James Clarke.

St. Marys No. 2 National School, Nenagh

We returned to our books on the 27th of August. We welcome our new students to Junior Infants- Maciej, Alexander, Benjamin, Mateusz, Scott, Wiktoria, Maja and Ethan. We, also, wish Lydia and Caroline, who join 4th and 5th class, a very warm welcome.

We would like to welcome Ms Niamh McConville, Mrs Emma O' Shea and Ms Charlotte Mc Loughlin to the school. Ms McConville and Mrs O'Shea will be working as Special Education Teachers and Ms McLoughlin has taken on the role of part-time Special Needs Assistant. We would also like to welcome Ms Karen Hogan who will be teaching the middle classes for the duration of Mrs Quin's maternity leave.

Our warmest congratulations go out to Mrs Quin and her family on the birth of her son, Aaron. All our best wishes to you.

The school sporting calendar kicks off with soccer coaching in early September. We welcome coach Sylvia Gee back again. Senior French classes have begun already, and a warm welcome back to Mme Healy- Bernard.

In September, we were delighted to welcome, well known author, Mrs Marjorie Quarton, to visit our school. Mrs Quarton read to the senior classes and discussed her novel "Corporal Jack" with the children. Great enjoyment was had by all!

St Michael's National School, Limerick

Another school year is well underway and our 14 new Junior Infants have settled in very well. We also welcomed a new Senior Infant to St Michael's. The Junior Infants have already been on their first outing to the Limerick City Art Gallery to participate in an interactive drama called 'The King of the Seas' Party', ably accompanied by our Sixth Class pupils.



Junior Infants Sept 2015

We are delighted to welcome back Caoimhghín Robinson, a past pupil, who is now in Transition year in St Munchin's College. As part of his work experience, he is coming to the school every Monday and helping out with a variety of activities.

Class allocations remain largely the same as last year with Sally Fossitt teaching 5th/6th Classes, Maria Robinson 3rd/4th Classes and Sheelagh Morrow having 2nd/3rd Classes. Áine McMahon is now the Learning Support/EAL Teacher and Lorraine Moran has Senior Infants and 1st Class. Sandra Wallace remains the Resource Teacher while Rosalind Stevenson is the Principal and Junior Infant Teacher. We were delighted to hear that Lorraine is expecting her first child in early January and is blooming!



One of our school parents has very kindly helped to organise a Sybil Connolly exhibition in the Hunt Museum on Sunday 11th October at 3pm. Sybil Connolly was a pioneering designer in Ireland, and one of the first to have international success. Enjoy an afternoon talk finding out about her life and work, and avail of an opportunity to see some of her clothes, textiles and ceramics. Proceeds from this exhibition will all go towards the school. Tickets will be available at a cost of €10. This promises to be an interesting and worthwhile visit, and hopefully the proceeds will greatly add to our diminishing school funds.

St Cronan's National School, Roscrea

We extend a warm welcome to Grace, Henry, Danielle, Marguerite, Sylvia and Elizabeth and hope you will enjoy your years in St. Cronan's National School.

Congratulations to all our past pupils who completed the Leaving and Junior Certificate exams. We were delighted to hear that targets set were achieved and goals realised. Well done and continued success.

We look forward to a busy and enjoyable school year. Pupils are currently enjoying yoga with Ms. Suzanne Delahunty and soccer with Ms. Sylvia Gee.

We would like to welcome Bishop Kenneth as Patron and Mr Jackie McNair as Chairperson to our Board of Management and extend many thanks to Mr Michael Pearson, as out going Chairperson for his commitment.

Many congratulations to Mr Adrain Hewson who recently celebrated 30 years of Ministerial Service in St. Cronan's Church, and thanks for his continuing contribution to St. Cronan's National School, Rosemount.

Cloughjordan No. 1 National School

When school re-opened on 1st September we extended a warm welcome to our new Junior Infants: Kyle, Gabriel, Jack, William, Kyle, Jonah, Cormac, Oisin, Callum, Jessica, Lily, Grace, Kyla, Emily, Brooke, Naomi, Lily and Sofiya. This is the largest class of Junior Infants the school has seen for a long time. We hope that all of these pupils and their families will be very happy in our school. We also welcomed back Mrs Emma Crawford to school from maternity leave. We congratulate Emma (Doherty) & Dave (O'Shea) on their wedding in August and wish them every happiness together. We also congratulate Mr. Shay O'Dwyer on his recent engagement. We wished our Sixth Class of 2014-2015 all the very best as they began a new chapter of their lives in various Secondary Schools this autumn.



2015 Junior & Senior Infants 1st September

We were delighted to learn that our school won joint 2nd Place in the Nenagh Municipal District of the Tipperary County Council Tidy Schools Competition and congratulate all involved in helping to keep our school clean.

Parents of our infant children enjoyed an informal opportunity to get to know each other over a cup of coffee in school one afternoon. It was great to see so many present on the day.

We welcomed back Anne Fitzpatrick to coach tennis to all pupils and Paddy Fitzpatrick from the IRFU to teach tag rugby to our 3rd-6th Class pupils.

We look forward to commencing our Artist in School Project, with local artist and school parent; Joanna Parkes based on the Life and Times of Thomas MacDonagh and are very grateful to Tipperary County Council for making this possible.

The Board of Management has been granted planning permission for a new single-storey extension, comprising of a new link corridor, a resource room, cleaner's store and an office. We hope that work will commence on this long awaited extension in the very near future.

Kiltallagh National School, Castlemaine

Welcome back to what hopefully will be another wonderful year in Kiltallagh National School.

Here's a little update on life in Kiltallagh!

PARENTS 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL PRAYER

I wonder what you're doing now,
And if everyone is treating you kind.
I hope there is a special person,
A nice friend that you can find.

I wonder if the teacher knows,
Just how special you are to me.
And if the brightness of your heart,
Is something she can see.
I wonder if you are thinking about me,
And if you need a hug.
I already miss the sound of your voice,
And how you give my leg a tug.
I wonder if you could possibly understand,
How hard it is for me to let you grow.
On this day know that my heart breaks,
For this is the first step in letting you go!

WELCOME: A big welcome to our new junior infant pupils: Betti Baker and Charlie O' Neill. We also welcome Sharon and Garrett O' Dowd who have joined us in 2nd and 5th class along with Aiden Hill who has commenced 2nd class. We hope you will have many happy days with us.



Award winners at Kiltallagh

SECONDARY SCHOOL...We are delighted to hear that Mason and Ramona have settled in very well in their new school in Milltown. Katie Boyle has moved a little farther -to Bandon Grammar School and is adjusting to the Leaside environs very well. Her older sister Emma has moved to Middleton Boarding School. We look forward to having them back to Kiltallagh.

LEAVING /JUNIOR CERT RESULTS.....Well done to our past pupils-Jack, Kyle and Lee in their results in the Leaving Cert Examinations. Kyle is studying Sports Strength and Conditioning in Thurles I.T.-Jack is studying Animation in Cork and Lee has taken up employment as a sales assistant in Top Shop, Milltown. Congratulations to Tom Eadie on receiving excellent results in his Junior Cert also. We are very proud of you all here in Kiltallagh.

FÁILTE: We are delighted to welcome Miss Rose O' Connor - (Resource Teacher) and Miss Maura O' Doherty (Learning Support Teacher) -to the staff of Kiltallagh N.S. We hope you will have many happy days with us in our school.



"Up Kerry" in Kiltallagh!

PET CORNER...Just before the holidays we were delighted to have Mason and Syanne's dog Jake into our school.

Jake is a German Shepherd and is 3 1/2 years old. He likes to sleep in the kitchen and in dad's bedroom! His favourite food is chicken nuts and gravy. Sometimes he eats the furniture too! Jake loves to play also. His favourite game is Towel Chase. Jake has a pink towel-torn to shreds- and we chase him to try and take it from him. Jake loves playing with the horses and donkeys but prefers the donkeys as they cannot run as fast! Sometimes we win. Jake likes to have his coat brushed. When he is shedding-there are dog hairs everywhere!

By Mason and Syanne

Rathkeale No. 2 National School

Our new school year began on Tuesday 1st September and we welcome our new pupils, Babette, Rebecca, Aiden, Kirill, Richard and Conor to Junior Infants as they begin their formal education. We also welcome Natalie to sixth class. We're also delighted to welcome Ms Ciara Looney back following her maternity leave.

Parents and teachers attended an anti bullying information workshop in Rathkeale House Hotel along with parents and teachers from surrounding schools.

We look forward to a busy year ahead in Rathkeale.

The Glebe National School, Aughrim

NEW BEGINNINGS:

August 31st marked the beginning of the new school year and with this we celebrate and acknowledge lots of new beginning for The Glebe NS. We welcome our new Junior Infants who have settled in so well and who add such life and energy to the school each year. Mrs. Glennon is new mainstream teacher and we extend welcome wishes to her as she guides 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th classes through this school year. We welcome Rev. John Godfrey to the school as both a parent and Rector. We are so delighted to have you and your family with us and we hope you'll be very happy here in Aughrim. Finally, we welcome Ms. Nicola Water and Ms. Louise Collins to the staff, both of whom are our shared learning support/resource teachers for this year.

HAPPY HARVEST:

Our fruit and vegetables from our vegetable patch are almost ready to be harvested. Some have done better than others but nonetheless we will look forward to getting stuck in.

REV. GEORGE FLYNN'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY:

September 17th was the first anniversary of Rev. George's death and on this day we held a small prayer service in the school for staff and pupils led by Rev. John. We shared many happy memories of our time with Rev. George and we sang some of his favourite hymns. It was a very fitting tribute to him.



Anniversary Service for Rev. George

Villiers School



OPEN DAY 2015

We are holding our second ever Open Day on Saturday 10th of October from 11.00 am – 1.00 pm. We warmly invite fourth, fifth and sixth class pupils, with their parents, to come to visit the School. During the morning, Ms Storey will give a short talk about Villiers and the type of education we espouse. After this families will be invited to see all around the School and then to informally meet the staff as well as some students and parents. If this is of interest to you do come along, you will be made very welcome!

ALL IRELAND SCHOOLS QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT We wish our senior boys' hockey well in their qualifying tournament to be held in both Villiers and Laurel Hill. We welcome Bandon Grammar, Ashton School, Middleton College and Newtown School to Limerick. Three schools will qualify for the upcoming All Ireland tournament in October.

RUGBY WORLD CUP In excess of forty students and staff have just returned from Ireland v Canada in the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff. What an experience for one and all to witness such an event.

1ST YEAR STUDENTS We welcomed five new first form groups to Villiers this year. They are settling in and getting used to their new school environment.

DERRAVOHER Work continues on Derravoher House next door and re-roofing is currently underway. The timber windows have now been fully refurbished.

TRANSITION YEAR Our TYs are now in full swing and have completed their induction. They are busily preparing for their fashion show and completed their Lough Derg Way hike.



Pact is an accredited agency under the 2010 Adoption Act to provide the following services:

Intercountry Adoption Assessment Service
Post Placement Report Service
for Intercountry Adoption
Domestic Adoption Assessment Service
Post Adoption Service for domestic Adoption
A Pre-Adoption Foster-Care Service

Phone: 01 2962200

Fax: 01 2964049

Email: info@pact.ie

Web: www.pact.ie

NEWS FROM THE VILLIERS SANCTUARY

The new term has started with quite a rush here in Villiers. After the excitement of new people and new positions it quickly settles down into the attempt at trying to understand timetables! Good luck to all concerned! I for one am usually at a loss until sometime after Christmas. It seems that finding the time to start tasks, never mind completing them, is somewhat of a major difficulty. This of course always leads me to a place where I have to stop and take a breath and remember that it is vital for the spirit and the soul to remember to simply 'be'. We have a tendency to think how important we are and the pressure we are under to complete deadlines that only we can complete that we may just be in danger of missing out on the life that God gave us.



Hayley Connole and Rebecca Gleeson receiving the award from Jim Breen of the Cycle Against Suicide campaign

This came into sharp focus for me recently when I went with Hayley Connole and Rebecca Gleeson, 5th and 6th year students, to receive an award from the Cycle Against Suicide campaign in recognition of the incredible work carried out in Villiers to promote positive mental health and to encourage help seeking behaviour among students. We set off to Farmleigh House in Dublin and it was when we arrived that I noticed all the young people from different parts of the country also receiving awards that I was struck by how incredible these young people are. How they gave up their time, lunch breaks, after school and even weekends to reach out to people and offer a helping hand to those who find themselves struggling.

It reminded me of the value of taking the time to notice others and what they are doing quietly and often unnoticed in the background. We can miss so much by being caught up in the 'busyness' of our lives that we fail to see the beauty of others and the world around us. This was a big lesson for me at the beginning of this new term and one that I hope to keep with as the year progresses. Of course while fellowship with each other is important spending time with God is also at the heart of spending time with ourselves. You see, it is good to know that God loves us and pursues us even when we get distracted, lose interest, or lose our way. God is always seeking us, speaking to us, and desiring relationship with us. Our job is only to stop and listen.

Thank you to Hayley and Rebecca and indeed to all the guys in the Villiers community group for all their work and commitment.

Blessings and Peace until next time,
Chaplain Jackie McNair

support • counselling • information • education

**No opinions,
just support**

Free Pregnancy tests!

Crisis Pregnancy Services

Talk it out!

+OPTIONS
CRISIS PREGNANCY SERVICES
Help. Support. Understanding.

Helpline: 1850 67 3333. www.here2help.ie
Located by Nutgrove Shopping Centre.

L I M E R I C K

Physiotherapy
c l i n i c

Physiotherapy and Podiatric
assessment and treatment

Frank Sheahan
B.Sc. (Hons) M.I.S.C.P M.C.S.P.
MICPO (Podiatry)

Tel: 061 349222 Corbally Medical Centre,
Fax: 061 345181 Corbally Road, Limerick.

www.limerickphysiotherapyclinic.com



Opportunities Unlimited

Co-educational Secondary School with a Welcoming, Caring and Supportive Environment

Since 1669, The King's Hospital has carefully maintained traditional values and combined them with modern, cutting-edge education and facilities to create a welcoming environment that enhances pupils' academic, cultural, creative, sporting and social development.

Students discover and reach their full potential with the assistance of dedicated staff who offer individual personal, academic and pastoral support throughout their time in school and with the transition to 3rd level education and career choices.

A beautiful and inspirational 80 acre campus offers extensive facilities for over 20 different sports and a wide range of musical, arts and drama activities providing opportunities for elite achievers in all areas while promoting positive health, welfare, fitness and fun for all students.

• **28 academic subjects include:**

- 5 Sciences
- Economics, Accounting & Business
- 5 Curricular Modern Languages
- Dedicated 1 to 1 Study and Career Advice

• **We also offer:**

- 5 & 7 Day Boarding options
- Bursary Support and Fee Assistance with additional SEC related assistance for boarders
- Easy access to campus situated at the M50 & M4 junction, close to Dublin City and Airport



The King's Hospital

Headmaster: John D. Rafter
B.A.(Mod), B.Sc., HDipEd.

For more information please call or visit us - or if you prefer - we will travel to meet with you. Please contact 01 643 6564 or email: enquiries@kingshospital.ie

www.kingshospital.ie

Creation: Myth or Moth? - God Is

The 7th and final article on Creation by Rev Simon J Lumby, Rector of Killarney Union

It's one of the greatest philosophical debates: what is God? Apophatic theology - via negativa - tries to say what God is not like. Cataphatic theology - via positiva - tries to say what God is like. We're doing neither. The basic thrust of this series of articles has been to try to express what "God" means. Having said God is: Creator, Love, One, Incarnate, Infinite, it now behoves us to consider the implications of this. In other words, what does it mean that these are all the same?

The somewhat cryptic title Creation: Myth or Moth? is intended to alert us to a key issue. If we think Creation - ie everything in existence - is nothing but an accident of possibilities then we have made a dangerous implicit assumption that'll pervade our instinct. We'll be at risk of taking our world for granted and treating it as a bag of goodies, to be used as we see fit. This is Creation as Myth. Alternatively, if we think of Creation as an intimately interconnected structure of beautiful God-endowed potential then our instinct will alert us to the myriad consequences of our actions. This is Creation as Moth.

The fact of the matter is this: Creation is the latter, it is imbued with God. So when we think it's the former—dislocated—we inevitably cause disruption and negative or inharmonic effects. However, when we acknowledge Creation's true nature we ourselves become intimately one with it. Our actions then—because we co-operate in the smooth recycling of energy—are harmonious and complimentary with God's. If you've ever seen a Blue Morpho flap its iridescent wings in the dappled daylight of the Belizean jungle you'll soon realise how the tiniest thing we do has the most profound effect.



That's what the heritage of Celtic Christianity is (or any other creation-sensitive culture). It offers us a practical example of the beauty and symmetry of living at one with nature. We are fed by it and we feed it. We are given the chance to invent and invest in its future and it invests in ours.

Climate-change is a natural phenomenon. What is unnatural is the rate of that change in the modern era; the scientific evidence is overwhelming. An instant change could be caused by some catastrophic event. This rapid change is attributed solely to humanity's profligate use of the carbon nature has stored away for recycling at an appropriate moment. We have intervened in the natural order of things in an unnatural way. The only thing our earth's eco-system can do is make a rapid compensatory change to balance out the uneven distribution of energy. So it heats up

a couple of degrees. And this causes many more extreme weather events and the pressure on equatorial countries to migrate to fertile pastures.

If our Moth flaps its wings in the wrong way it won't fly properly. That it does flap is sufficient cause for side-effects that unsettle nature. It's only one moth and one tiny flap, yet the consequences proliferate. When it flaps as it was designed to, nature benefits. We are 7 billion. If each of us flap our wings in the wrong way we cause immense irrevocable damage. The solution is not to stop flapping our wings. Instead we must flap them in the right way.

As human beings we've a God-given capacity to invent and construct. We should be using it with sensitivity and wisdom. Not for our own acquisitive pleasure. Not even just for the benefit of impoverished humanity. But for the welfare and wellbeing of the whole of the created order on earth. The earth will survive, but the irritant organism that plagues it will be evicted.

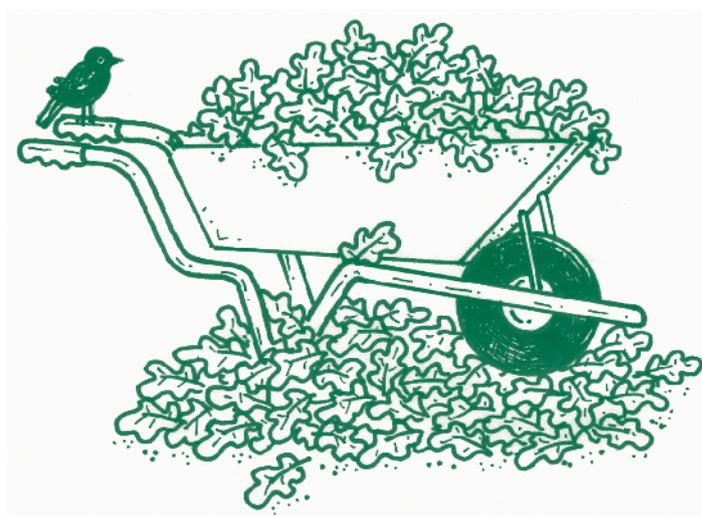
This is the import of St James' Epistle "works without faith". As Christians we should be in tune with God and therefore in harmony with nature. Then the things we do are consistent with the wellbeing of the natural order. It should be part of our spiritual DNA to "do the right thing". The fact is we are more often in tune with the world's prescription; we "do our own thing".

We can learn from the Celtic Christianity of our fore-dwellers. They honoured nature; they saw God everywhere; they felt and nurtured the harmonies of nature. They lived in humble and sustainable correlation with Creation.

Use only what is necessary; protect and care for the store of earth's goodness; neither hoard nor consume for the sake of it. We know all these things, but don't often do them. Each little flap makes a difference.

Now we realise that by not doing them we inevitably, incrementally and unremittingly make the universe ill. And the universe lives in and through God ...

So pray ... and be the answer to your prayer.



The Carrot Washer has landed

Linda Chambers of US Ireland has kindly sent the following news.

We took advantage of spare space in the carrot washer's shipping container to despatch all sorts of useful stuff in boxes: from Limerick & Killaloe, 200 pairs of boots, work clothes, tools, children's clothing and shoes, toys and games, and 20+ boxes of children's books; from Ballymore, Armagh, 20 boxes of reading books for children, with any gaps filled with hand-knits; and the last 1500 pencil cases, donated by schools and parishes all over Ireland.

As arranged by Andy Finn, Managing Director of IPS Groupage Services, everything was brought to DSV's warehouse in Swords on 26th June, where the carrot washer along with 175 boxes were packed into the container, under the direction of Louis Cottell. Both DSV and IPS provided their services free of charge. The container left Dublin on the MS Elbfeeder, for Antwerp, where it was transferred to the MS Athos, for Durban, then by train to Swaziland. When the container was finally opened, we were relieved to see that nothing inside had moved thanks to the good packing and stowing.

There was great excitement on the farm as the first boxes were opened. As the boots were unpacked, Sifiso was summoned to display the boots he was wearing - they were in pieces. Sifiso got the first pair of new boots, amongst much laughing and cheering. All the farm workers received overalls and warm jackets. The farm and gardening tools were warmly welcomed, as were the strong gloves.

The "farm" boxes were separated from the other boxes. The books will be stored until January when they will be delivered to schools. The clothing, shoes, games and toys etc will be handled by the diocesan office, though their social development programme, to make sure that they go to the neediest beneficiaries. The bishop's garage has been earmarked for storage!

The carrot washer is now installed in its final position and farm manager Tiekie reports:

"The carrot washer is at the moment three times faster than the cement mixer but this will improve once I have a better produce flow from the fields which the newly-arrived tractor and trailer will provide. At the moment we are out of beetroot so I cannot measure the full potential, but if I can make assumptions I would say that we will be approx 10 times faster - thanks to Limerick & Killaloe Diocese."



Sifiso's boots - old & new



The Carrot Washer in operation

New Lectern and Bible for St Michael's, Limerick

On Sunday, 6th September, Rev'd Edna consecrated a beautiful antique, solid oak lectern and new lectern Bible for use in the side chapel of St. Michael's Church.

These gifts were generously donated by the O'Neil family, to the glory of God, and in loving memory of their parents, Robert and Dorothy (Dot). Robert was a Diocesan Reader for many years, and Dorothy played the organ in St. Michael's Church, also for many years.

There was a large turnout of the O'Neil family present for the consecration which took place at the 8.30 am Holy Communion service. The clergy and St. Michael's parishioners would like to thank the O'Neil family for their useful, thoughtful and generous gifts.



A large turnout of the O'Neill family with the new lectern

Institution of the Rev John Godfrey as Rector of the Aughrim & Creagh Unions

A large congregation joined together in St. John's Church, Ballinasloe on Friday 4th September to welcome their new Rector, the Rev John Godfrey to the Aughrim Union of Parishes and the Creagh (Ballinasloe) Union of parishes. Clergy, dignitaries, invited guests and parishioners witnessed Bishop Kenneth Kearon institute Rev John into his first parish as Rector. The Venerable Gary Hastings, Rector of Galway were Rev John had been curate, preached the sermon with considerable humour but touching on serious themes, outlining a Rector's role in his new parish and what he could expect from the outset. The choir from St. Nicholas's Church in Galway led the congregation in the singing and this added another dimension to a very special occasion. Representatives from all six parishes also took part in the service.

Following the institution, Rev John, his wife Shirley-Anne and their two young daughters joined in excess of 200 guests in Gullane's Hotel for a light supper and a get together. Words of welcome were given by Dean Maurice Sirr, Bishop Kenneth Kearon and Norman Sinclair.

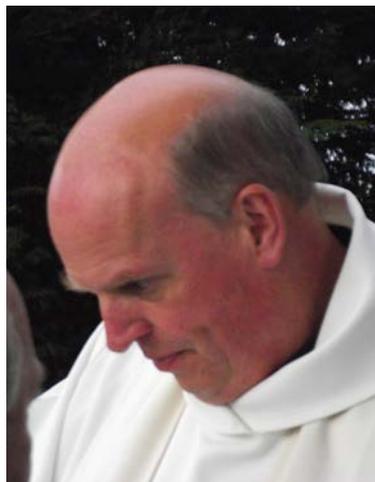
On behalf of all the parishioners, John Joseph presented Shirley-Anne with a bouquet of flowers and gifts of welcome were also presented to the children, Annaliese and Frances-Rose from Meaghan Shiels (Ardrahan) and Adam Newton (Ballinasloe) on behalf of the Ardrahan and St. John's Sunday school children.



At the Institution: Bishop Kenneth Kearon, Rev. John Godfrey and Archdeacon Wayne Carney



Rev John receiving the water of baptism



The preacher: The Venerable Gary Hastings, Rector of Galway and Archdeacon of Tuam

Introducing Rev John Godfrey

Editor: at our request Rev John has written the following to introduce himself to the United Dioceses.

This is John's first incumbency, having served for three years as Curate Assistant of Galway, under the supervision of Archdeacon Gary Hastings. He trained for ordained ministry in the Church of Ireland Theological Institute, in the pioneering year of the new MTh course. That included a year's ministry as a deacon intern in Greystones Parish, Co. Wicklow, where he was mentored by Reverend David Mungavin; along with placements in Dunganstown, Redcross and Conory, Drumcondra and North Strand and Saint Bartholomew's, all in the Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough.

John's journey of vocation in the Church of Ireland began in 2007, under the guidance of Archdeacon Ricky Rountree, in Powerscourt parish. However, its roots can be traced to a childhood in Wolverhampton, where his father served as priest in the Church of England.

Prior to ordination, John was a manager in RTE Television, where he worked for ten years in their Sales and Marketing department, following the completion of an MA in Film and Television Studies at DCU.

As an undergraduate, John studied French and English at the University of Leeds, where he also developed a life-long interest in the theatre. However, a year-long placement in a secondary school near Paris as part of that degree was to change the course of his life forever. It was there that he first met his wife Shirley-Anne, a native of County Donegal who was teaching in a neighbouring school. The rest of their lives together have been built here in Ireland.

Having lived in Dublin, Wicklow and Galway City, John and Shirley-Anne are now happy to be building a home here in Aughrim, with their two young daughters, Anneliese (4) and Frances-Rose (1). They have been moved by the warmth of their welcome from the people of this place, and wish to express their heartfelt thanks for all of the good wishes that they have received.



L-R Meaghan Shiels (Ardrahan), Adam Newton (Ballinasloe), Rev. John with his wife Shirley-Anne and two daughters Frances-Rose and Annaliese

Bandon Grammar School

Co-Educational Boarding and Day



Founded 1641

Principal: Ian Coombes, BA, HED, MED

Bandon Grammar School is a Church of Ireland managed school with its own chapel, chaplain and liturgical programme working in a spirit of inclusion

We offer:-

- A broad, stimulating programme to help each pupil discover and reach full potential in a caring environment.
- A dedicated staff providing excellent academic, pastoral and guidance support
- Modern, comfortable boarding facilities
- Strong tradition of inclusion of children with special needs
- A wide range of subjects including the full range of sciences, business subjects, 4 languages and many practical options
- An exciting innovative Transition Year programme
- Excellent academic achievements annually, with major prizes and third level scholarships won consistently
- Emphasis on the visual and performing arts, music, choir and debating
- Newly constructed specialist and general classrooms, laboratories, workshops and lecture theatre, superbly equipped with the latest technology.
- A wide choice of sports, clubs and after-school activities
- Facilities include a modern sports complex, weights room, synthetic floodlit hockey pitch and multisports/ tennis area, synthetic athletics area, rugby pitches and cricket pitch on over 30 hectares of grounds.
- Extensive and inclusive range of school tours, including skiing, music and art tours, language exchanges and sports tournaments
- State grants, family allowances and scholarships available to help with moderate fees



Full range of extra
curricular activities



Website: www.bandongrammar.ie

Phone: 023 / 8841713

Fax No: 023 / 8844404

Email: info@bandongrammar.ie



Archbishop launches Community of St Anselm

Archbishop Justin Welby commissioned the first members of the Community of St Anselm in a special service at Lambeth Palace on 18th September 2015. Thirty-six young men and women from across the UK and around the world today became the first members of the Archbishop of Canterbury's new monastic-inspired community at Lambeth Palace.

The Community of St Anselm – a programme for Christians aged 20–35 to spend a year praying, studying ethics and theology, and serving the poorest in local communities – was officially launched in a special service at Lambeth Palace Chapel. The first intake of the Community has 16 residential members from around the world – including the USA, Kenya and Australia – who will live at Lambeth Palace. They are joined by 20 non-resident members who will be living in London and continuing their jobs in finance, media, education, the civil service and elsewhere.

The Archbishop said his prayer for the Community was that it "speaks God's truth to itself and the world – in other words, that it is prophetic." He added: "We commit to receive each other as a gift. That is a challenge for you, and for all at Lambeth Palace for whom this is a radical change, including me – especially me. You are God's gifts to me, and astonishing as it may seem, I to you, and all to each other. If we receive those gifts, we will bear fruit, now and in the future for decades even into eternity."

The Community is open to men and women from any Christian denomination, and this year includes Anglicans, Methodists, Roman Catholics and Pentecostals, among others. It takes its name from a Benedictine monk and brilliant scholar, who was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1093–1109. St Anselm's motto was 'faith seeking understanding', a reminder that the faith journey begins with an active love of God – and from this love a deeper knowledge of God follows.



Archbishop Justin Welby with the Community of St Anselm, Lambeth Palace, 18 September 2015 (Picture: Lambeth Palace)

Thanks and Praise Launched at National Cathedral

The Church of Ireland has officially launched its new supplement to the Church Hymnal, *Thanks and Praise*, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. Around 140 guests attended the event in the Lady Chapel on Friday evening, 11th September. *Thanks and Praise* contains some 227 hymns, songs and liturgical settings reflecting the best of church music to emerge since the most recent edition of the Church Hymnal was compiled in 2000. It is accompanied by recorded church music and Braille editions and an updated version of 'Sing to the Word', the lectionary hymn guide edited by the Rt Revd Edward Darling. The congregation sang from the hymnal supplement, including 'Our father we have wandered', 'O God of Faith', and 'We shall go out with hope of resurrection'. The junior choirs of Taney and Kiltarnan parish churches, Dublin, sang 'He made the stars' and 'Faith as small as a mustard seed' while 'Wonderful Lord' and 'Don't build your house' were performed by the choir of St Gall's, Carnalea, Bangor. Edwin Brown, from Bushmills, sang a solo version of his own hymn 'See the Lamb of God'.

'*Thanks and Praise* is born,' remarked the Rt Revd Harold Miller, Chairman of the Liturgical Advisory Committee. He noted that it will be a book that 'we will grow to really love and nurture and value, and will be a blessing to us in the future.' The book was formally launched by the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Revd Dr Richard Clarke who thanked Bishop Miller as editor and the Revd Dr Peter Thompson as music editor, for their energy, drive and enthusiasm. Archbishop Clarke commended *Thanks and Praise* as 'a wonderful addition to the Church of Ireland' and added: 'Every parish should have this book because every parish can use this book and every parish can benefit from this book.' The Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Revd Michael Jackson, highlighted that the accompanying resources will allow many more people to enjoy it as part of church life. He commented: 'I have great pleasure in being associated with the launch of *Thanks and Praise* this evening in St Patrick's Cathedral. The involvement of singers from right around

the country bodes well for its inclusion in the worshipping life of the Church of Ireland!' *Thanks and Praise* is one of the first books to be published first in a Braille edition, produced by the Braille unit at HMP Maghaberry. A gift was presented to Braille instructor Mark Mooney towards the work of the unit.



Pictured at the launch of *Thanks and Praise* (L-R): Rt Rev Edward Darling, Rev Dr Peter Thompson, Most Rev Michael Jackson, Archbishop of Dublin, Most Rev Dr Richard Clarke, Archbishop of Armagh, and Rt Rev Harold Miller, Chairman, Liturgical Advisory Committee

It's not a dream, it's real!



Real Glasshouses
and Polytunnels

www.polydome.ie

Tel 057 912 0424



**Everyone can discover
their potential.**

**OPEN DAY
SATURDAY
7th NOVEMBER
2015**

At Rathdown School, we believe that each student is unique and should be nurtured to achieve her individual best in all aspects of life. Academic, art, music and sports scholarship opportunities are now available. For application details, visit www.rathdownschool.ie



RATHDOWN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Pre-School, Junior School, Senior & Boarding School
Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Tel: +353 (1) 285 3133

A community for life.

- Excellent Academic Results • Small Class Sizes • Broad Subject Range • Music School
- Full Extra-Curricular Programme • Extensive Sports Facilities • iPad Learning Technology
- 7 Day Boarding (10+) • Short-term Boarding Options • Extended Day Care

Killaloe Diocese

Killaloe & Stradbally Union of Parishes

Killaloe, Castleconnell, Clonlara, Mountshannon and Tuamgraney.

Rector & Dean: The Very Rev. Gary Paulsen

The Deanery, Abbey Road, Killaloe, Co. Clare

Tel: 061-374 779

Mob: 085-764 0533

Email: abbeydean2@gmail.com

There is a harp school in Castleconnell, where we have All Saints Church, and this year the Youth Harp Orchestra held a concert in Killaloe Cathedral on Friday August 21st. The Irish Youth Harp Orchestra performed with the Limerick Pipe Band, a choir and a number of soloists performing a mix of music – but including excerpts from Janet Harbison work performed last year: 'The Lion of Ireland' about the story of Brian Boru. This concert was entirely for the charity 'Bothar', all performers are donating their services.

Family and friends gathered for Sabdh Hogan's baptism at All Saints Castleconnell on 22 August. Our good wishes go also to Declan and Tara and also the grandparents. When we all arrived back at the house for the customary cup of tea after the baptism at the church many of grandad's friends had gathered to surprise Leslie who celebrated his 70th birthday. So it turned out to be a wonderful day of celebrations and surprises.



Sabdh with her parents and grandparents

Alison Worrell and Leslie Austin were married on Friday 18 September at Mountshannon. The weather held and the church including the loft was packed to capacity as we tried to fit in around 180 of their guests into the Mountshannon Church. It was a great celebration with people travelling from all over to be with the happy couple. The Rev Ruth Gill was also part of the celebrations and it was appropriate to have her there as Leslie comes from Cloughjordan and the couple will have their home in Cloughjordan. It was good to have Alison in her home parish to be married and celebrations followed in the Abbey Court Hotel in Nenagh where Alison is the front office manager. Best wishes to them.



Alison and Leslie with their parents

Olga Tihonrova Purkiss who came to live with Michael her husband in Ballina Killaloe was buried from Killaloe Cathedral on 14 September. Olga in her forties was Russian Orthodox and it was an interesting liturgy with Fr Bobby and the Dean attempting to provide a liturgy that embraced some of her traditions and symbols. Marija Naumova who in 2002 won the Eurovision Song Contest for Latvia was a friend of Olga's and sang a beautiful Russian folksong and gave a wonderful tribute to Olga. Our prayers and sympathies to her husband Michael.

When September and October arrives the Harvest season is upon us. It is usually a time when people in the community who are not part of regular Sunday worship visit our churches and join in with the harvest service. So harvest also has a sense of the larger community gathered. This year we will have services in each of our five churches as we try to engage and invite the larger community to join with us in giving God thanks for the harvest. The land and farming are an important part of the economy and the life of many in rural Ireland, so it is appropriate to give God thanks for the abundance from His hand. We will have the services at 4.30 in all of our churches on the following dates:

Clonlara	27 September
Mountshannon	4 October
Killaloe Cathedral	11 October
Castleconnell	18 October
Tuamgraney	25 October

Birr Group of Parishes

Birr, Lorrha, Lockeen, and Dorrha

Rector: The Venerable R. Wayne Carney

Archdeacon of Killaloe & Clonfert

The Rectory, Birr, Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 912 0021 Mob: 087 786 5234

Email: mapleire@eircom.net

Parish Facebook: www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes

WORSHIPPING WITH THE METHODISTS

Continuing until approximately the end of November, our church in Birr is closed to allow the interior to be repainted. During this time, we have been invited to share our worship with the Methodist Church. They have graciously allowed us to continue our way of doing things on our Sundays, which will alternate with theirs. The schedule is as follows:

1st Sunday – 10.15 am	Church of Ireland Holy Communion
2nd Sunday – 12.00 noon	Methodist Holy Communion
3rd Sunday – 12.00 noon	Church of Ireland Family Service
4th Sunday – 12.00 noon	Methodist Morning Service

Because of the number of services the Revd Clodagh Yambasu and the Methodist local preachers have to do, they are unable to vary the times of their services to suit us. As noted, the service on the 1st Sunday of the month will be at 10.15 am, and the other weeks at 12.00 noon. The time change for us is unfortunate, but is only for two months. Our Sunday School will continue each week except on the Family Service Sunday, which is now the 3rd Sunday of the month. We do hope that our parishioners will take advantage of this opportunity to honour our covenant agreement with the Methodist Church in Ireland, and to enrich their experience of different ways to worship the same God.

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS

We offer our sincere condolences to Phyllis Wolfe, whose sister Edith died recently. We keep Linda Gill in our prayers, and her brother Trevor who is seriously ill at this writing. And we have had a number of parishioners who have had health concerns over the summer: Deirdre Dickson, George Gill, and Olive Delahunt. We offer prayers of thanksgiving for their return to good health.

RE-CONGRATULATIONS

Last month we offered best wishes to Alan Jackson on his marriage to Lucinda Rohan. Unfortunately, it is Alan's twin brother Ross who married Lucinda. As long as their wives can tell them apart! Sincere apologies to all concerned. Congratulations, too, to Whitten and Linda Gill, who have a new granddaughter, Marnie Aoife, and to proud parents Stephen and Patricia.

Roscrea Group of Parishes

Roscrea, Bourney, Corbally and Kyle

Rector: Rev Jane Galbraith

St. Cronan's Rectory, Rosemount, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0505 21725 Mob: 087 382 5336

Email: galbraithjane@gmail.com

ROSCREA BRANCH CITIZENS INFORMATION SERVICE.

Toni Gleeson Chairperson of the County Tipperary Citizens Information Service made a presentation on Sept.16th. to our Nevin Alton, on being a founder member of the Roscrea Branch 40 years ago. Mention was made of the mountain of information he holds and the endless help he has offered and still offers, to so many callers. He would often call to the centre and pull a piece of paper from his pocket with four or five notes from those who contacted him at home, in order to progress their enquiries in the centre. He ran the branch almost single-handedly for nearly seven years. The service extends a listening ear and a safe place to every caller to the centre. Congratulations Nevin on being an example of the vital and wonderful work trained volunteers carry out on everyone's behalf.

SERVICE OF DEDICATION Roscrea Group of Parishes were delighted to welcome Bishop Kenneth on the afternoon of Sept. 13th. He presided at a celebration of the Holy Communion during which he dedicated the twelve nave windows, recently extensively renovated, to the glory of God. St. Cronan's Church was built in 1812. It stands on a site where we believe Christian worship has been continuous for fifteen hundred years. The nave windows number twelve. They were restored in 1976 There are plaques bearing the names of past parishioners and their relatives. One of our oldest parishioners remembers his parent's generous donation to the former 'windows project'.

The present plaques are of marble and reflect memorials erected by present parishioners bearing witness to those who have died, very recently. These include Gladys Young wife of St.Cronan's present churchwarden Des, who organised the 'plaque project'. Also, Nigel Williams son of parishioners Bobby and Noleen Willams. Nigel was an internationally well-known tenor, whose life was snatched at a young age midst a glittering career. Many parishioners donated to the cost of the renovations. Some donating for a particular window, while others did not wish their names associated with any particular window but who know silently, whose memory they associate with the project.

Not least in this connection is the O'Neal Pannell family from Fultan, Texas, U.S.A. Poor health prevented the senior O'Neals from travelling at this time. They have been visitors to Roscrea and St. Cronan's for many years. Their two daughters however were present at the service and Stacy, also a regular visitor, read the first reading. Other major helpers were Tipperary County Council and not least the C of I Marshall Beresford Fund was also supportive to the project. In attendance also were the craftsmen who installed the renovated windows. A presentation from Roscrea Group of Parishes was made by Des Young to bishop Kenneth. The bishop remarked on the fine job which can be seen from the town, welcoming people in and standing testimony to God's word shining out. After the service everyone was invited to Roscrea National School for refreshments during which the Group's members met Bishop Kenneth.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES St.Cronan's Oct. 4th. 3.30.p.m. and St.Burchin's Bourney Oct. 11th. 3.30p.m.

CLUB START UPS BB, Youth Club, GFS, MU have all got going for the season. Best wishes to all participants and especially to the leaders who give so generously and enthusiastically of their time and energy.

ST. CRONAN'S NATIONAL SCHOOL Welcome back to school are the Principal Mrs. Powell and especially Junior Room teacher Mrs. Hogan and all their pupils. The school will have had their year opening service in church and will be looking forward to their school Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Oct. 23rd at 10.30a.m. in St.Cronan's.

HEALER PRAYER Next Service Oct. 21st. Wednesday, all are welcome at 7.30.p.m. in St.Cronan's Church.



*St.Cronan's Service of Dedication of Nave Windows.
back L.to R. Mr.Fitzgerald paintwork; Bishop Kenneth, Mr.Brophy carpenter
front L. to R. Mr.Des Young People's churchwarden; Revd. Jane; Adrian Hewson,
Diocesan Reader; Mr.David Lewis People's Churchwarden*

J J Ryan Funeral Directors

Nenagh, County Tipperary

Ryans provide a comfortable
purpose built funeral home.

Shipping of remains,
embalming (female embalmer available)
Cremation, nurse to perform last offices

Telephone: 076 31541

- Mobile - Philip 087 6874775

Philip@jjryanundertakers.com - www.
jjryanundertakers.com

Nenagh Union of Parishes

Nenagh, Templederry, Ballymackey and Killodiernan

Vacant

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Lucy Green

Tel: 062 79941 Mob: 087 667 0425

Email: lucygreen06ie@yahoo.co.uk

Diocesan Readers:

Joc Sanders 087 699 6775, joc_sanders@iol.ie

Audrey Clarke Gordon

087 742 8901, audreyclarkegordon@hotmail.com

SERVICES

St. Mary's Nenagh: 11am 1st, 2nd, 3rd (Family Service) & 4th Sundays

Templederry: 9.30am 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays

Killodiernan: 12.15pm 2nd & 4th Sundays

5th Sundays: 11am United Service, rotating between churches

OCTOBER SERVICES

Sunday 4th Oct Holy Communion in Templederry, Nenagh and Killodiernan – usual times

Sunday 11th Oct Harvest service in Killodiernan at 11 am.
Officiant Joc Sanders.

Sunday 18th Oct Family Harvest service in St Mary's at 11am.
Officiant Audrey Clarke Gordon.

Sunday 25th Oct Harvest service in Templederry at 3.30pm.
Officiant Reverend Lucy and preacher Fr Willie Teehan.

Saturday 31st Oct Prayers for the Departed in Ballymackey Graveyard at 11am

As has been the practice in the last number of years, the Harvest Celebration will be the only service in the Nenagh Union of that Sunday. Collections will go to Refugees.

The parish was sad to hear that Hazel Lidwill passed away in September. She had asked for a private funeral which was attended by her family. We offer our condolences to her daughter, Catherine and the rest of Hazel's family at this time.

St Mary's will be the venue for the wedding of Sharon Gloster and Robbie Nevin on the 23rd October. We wish them best wishes for their marriage.

The parish was pleased to welcome the Ministry & Resources Committee when it visited the parish on 1st September. We thank them for their engagement with us and feedback, which made the visitation a useful and positive experience. Following it's report Diocesan Council has approved the issue of a Certificate of Stipend once the Architect certifies the Rectory as structurally complete which we expect to be around 1st November. Work is continuing apace – the roofing almost complete.

The Rectory and church grounds' trees are due for some major work which will be taking place shortly.

The 2015 Christmas Tree Festival planning is in full swing and invitations to former exhibitors are about to be sent. The Festival will run from Sunday the 13th until Sunday the 20th December, 1-7 pm daily, ending with the traditional Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. More information will be available in next month's Newslink.

Our Youth Groups have resumed their activities and many thanks to all who give of their time and expertise to help in these vital aspects of our parish life. Congratulations to all our students on their exam results and best wishes to all embarking on further studies at Third Level

Please keep our house-bound parishioners in your prayers, together with those who have recently been hospitalised and bereaved.

Cloughjordan & Borrisokane Group of Parishes

Cloughjordan, Borrisokane, Borrisnafarney and Ballingarry.

Vacant

Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Ruth Gill

Kilgolan House, Kilcormac, Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 913 5341 Mob: 087 948 4402

Email: ruth_gill40@outlook.ie

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES

We are extremely grateful to Bishop Kenneth for coming to preach at the service in Borrisokane on the 13th September and to join in the harvest lunch afterwards, which was a wonderfully cheerful event with lots of food and lots of chat! Many thanks were extended to a whole team of people under the able stewardship of Angel Donovan in providing the meal. Bishop Kenneth also preached in Cloughjordan earlier that morning.

The service in Templeharry was on the 20th September with Adrian Hewson preaching.

Ballingarry was on the 27th September with the Revd. Jane Galbraith as our special preacher. Borrisnafarney on the 4th October with Canon Ian Poulton preaching.

Friday, 9th October in Cloughjordan at 8 p.m., with Archdeacon Wayne Carney preaching.

Collections at all the harvest thanksgiving services will go to the work of Bishops' Appeal.

BAPTISMS

Lily May Sheils was baptised in Cloughjordan on the 30th August. She is the daughter of Millie and Rob Sheils and granddaughter of Des and Vera Larke.

Nadia Angel Donovan was baptised in Borrisokane on the 19th September. She is the daughter of Keith and Magda Donovan and granddaughter of Angel and Tom Donovan. It was a doubly special day as Tom and Angel also celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary!



The Donovan Family with Angel and Tom on the right

MARRIAGES

Emma Stanley, daughter of Robert and Hestor, and George McAdoo were married in Borrisokane on the 17th September. Their ceremony was conducted by the Revd. Stephen Neill.

Leslie Austin, son of Willie and Frances, and Alison Worrell were married in Mountshannon on the 18th September where the ceremony was conducted by the Very Revd. Gary Paulsen assisted by the Revd. Ruth.

Both couples are wished every blessing in their future lives, Emma and Robert in Monaghan and Leslie and Alison in Cloughjordan.



Leslie and Alison

SYMPATHY

Sincere sympathy is extended to those who have been bereaved: to Robert Stanley on the death of his sister, Edie Muzum who died in Donegal. Also to the relatives of Iris Coleman who died on the 24th August: her daughter Charon who lives in Kilcormac and to her sister Phyllis Coghlan, Cloughjordan. Iris' funeral service took place in Ballingarry on the 27th August with a large attendance from her friends who share her passion for horses.

CHANGE IN SERVICE TIMES

Just for the winter months or until a new rector is appointed, it will be necessary to make a slight change to the times of services in Ballingarry. On two Sundays each month the service in Ballingarry will be at 11.30 a.m. and the alternate two Sundays, at 10.00 a.m. Full details will be included in the Newsletter issued on the 27th September.

SAFEGUARDING TRUST

A training session for workers will be arranged shortly for the Sunday Schools and GFS.

Shinrone Group of Parishes

Shinrone, Aghancon, Kinnitty and Dunkerrin

Rector: Canon Michael Johnston (on sick leave)

Priest-in-Charge: Archdeacon Wayne Carney

The Rectory, Birr, Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 912 0021 Mob: 087 786 5234

Email: mapleire@eircom.net

We are delighted to have our Rector Canon Michael getting back amongst us. Archdeacon Wayne Carney is still our priest in charge until he is fully back on his feet. With this in mind it is being proposed that there should only be 2 services in the Group each Sunday and the times may be slightly changed. Sundays will alternate, with services in Dunkerrin and Shinrone or Kinnitty and Aghancon. Unless we find more parish or lay readers in the Group, it is too much to be asking our clergy to be trying to stretch themselves over 4 churches.

We are extremely grateful to those who are helping out at present, especially Jean Talbot and Derek and Amanda Grant. You are much appreciated.

The Mothers' Union Opening Service will be held in Shinrone at 7.30pm (NB earlier time) on Thursday 8th October.

On Sunday the 18th October The Venerable John Murray, now retired from Rathdowney parish, will be in Shinrone for the Harvest Thanksgiving service. John's father was Rector of Shinrone in the 1960s and John grew up in the parish. The time of service is still to be announced.

On Sunday 25th October there will be a Sunday Lunch in Aghancon Hall at 1pm in aid of Church Funds. This will be followed by the Harvest Festival service at 2.30pm. The preacher will be The Reverend Denis Sandes. Details are still to be finalised. Watch out for announcements, please.

BLACK BULL THRESHING FESTIVAL

On Sunday 30th August the Annual Black Bull Threshing Festival took place and it was a lovely fine day and a very big crowd. It was a very enjoyable and profitable afternoon as the fine sum of €37,000 was the final figure made.

After two charities and the expenses are accounted for, Aghancon Hall Committee will be the recipient of quite a large amount, which will be used to tarmac around the hall, The Presentation night will be in October.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this community event, such a success. Brilliant!

On Friday the 18th September, Amy Grant and Shane Slattery made their marriage vows to each other in St Finnian's Church, Kinnitty. Amy is the daughter of Norman and Cynthia Grant.



Happy couple with Rev Janet

The church was beautifully decorated in honour of a beautiful bride. The ceremony was presided over by Reverend Janet White Spinner assisted by Shane's parish priest Father Dick Kelly from Kilbehenny, Co Limerick. The couple had put together a beautiful service which included the Eucharist. A harpist played instrumental music, the keyboard accompanied the congregational hymns and a soloist was

also much appreciated. Three graceful bridesmaids, two pageboys and a flower girl accompanied the bride. A truly happy occasion. The reception was held in Racket Hall Hotel. May God richly bless the Union of this young couple with many years of true contentment.

*May joy and peace surround you both
Contentment latch your door,
and happiness be with you now
and God bless you evermore. Amen*

As part of the Local Storytelling Weekend, there will be one night in Aghancon Hall which will be Saturday 10th October at 8pm

DIARY DATES:

Thursday 8th October: Mothers' Union Opening Service in Shinrone 7.30pm (NB earlier time)

10th October and every 2nd Saturday Whist Drives in Cloughmoyle School, Shinrone at 8.30 pm

10th October Saturday, 8pm Storytelling in Aghancon Hall at 8 pm

15th October, & every 3rd Thursday Whist Drives in Aghancon Hall

18th October Harvest Festival in Shinrone. Time to be announced

Drumcliffe Union with Kilnasoolagh

Ennis, Kilfenora, Kilkee, Spanish Point, Kilnasoolagh and Shannon

Rector: Rev. Chancellor Robert Charles Hanna

The Rectory, Bindon Street, Ennis, Co. Clare.

Tel: 065 – 6820109 Mob: 086 2167040

Email: bobhanna@eircom.net

Parish website: www.churchofirelandclare.com

COUNTDOWN TO 100!

Drumcliffe Group of Parishes is preparing the countdown for the Centenary Birthday celebrations for Mrs Anna McCrum, resident in Cahercalla Nursing Hospital, Ennis. Anna, mother of three men, Derek and Norman in Surrey and Samuel in Waterford, is still keenly singing Hymns from her bed, a legacy of a life time of involvement with choral music – "I have been singing in the Ennis choir since I was nine". Even in her courting days with future husband Leslie, and during her marriage too, singing was a passion, often taking them to places like Killaloe and Limerick and Nenagh for choral events. As a very sweet reminder of the wonderful heritage which is ours from the Church of Ireland hymn-singing culture and tradition, Anna derives great joy and comfort from the many tunes and lyrics in the hymnal while bedbound. Earlier this Summer her eldest son Derek, a retired schoolmaster, was elected as Lord Mayor of Woking, Surrey – a proud moment for the on-coming Centenarian. Mrs McCrum will celebrate her 100th birthday on October 22nd.

HARVEST

Kilnasoolagh's Harvest arrangements, planned for mid-October, were for logistic reasons necessarily still in mothballs when going to press, but great expectancy nevertheless was the mood of the moment – as along with Ennis and Spanish Point preparations were unfolding for Bishop Kenneth's episcopal visit on September 19th and 20th. Meantime thanks to the small faithful team who undertook the tidy-up at Kilnasoolagh.

ELECTION

Mr Pascal Sage, enthusiastic and dedicated Churchwarden at Kilnasoolagh has been co-opted to The Diocesan Council of Limerick and Killaloe. He fills a serious breach of representation from our Parish in Diocesan administration for some considerable time and hopefully with promising signs of evolving talent and interest within Drumcliffe Group with Kilnasoolagh, our delegation can be enhanced further still following a Synod or two!

KILRUSH LOSS

Mr Adam (Adie) Brew, the last of a set of brothers linked with the old St Senan's Parish in the seaport town of Kiltrush, died in Baldoyle Nursing Home in Dublin, aged 88. Linked for much of his adult life with the parish of Rathmines, he suffered over many decades from virtual blindness with real grace and courage. His only close relatives, children to a brother the late Bertie – Michael (who travelled from Brisbane for the funeral), David (in Bristol) and Rachel (in Ennis) gathered for the funeral. A sister-in-law, the late Kathleen Brew served as a diocesan reader within the Kiltrush Union.



Nigel Bridge, organist at St Columba's, Drumcliffe, seen with soloist Alanna Bradley prior to the evensong to close the AOIFA National Flower Festival

Clonfert Diocese

Aughrim & Creagh Unions of Parishes

Aughrim, Ballinasloe, Ahascragh, Ardrahan, Clontuskert and Woodlawn

Rector: Rev. John Godfrey

The Rectory, Aughrim, Co. Galway.

Tel: 090 967 3735 Mob: 087 900 8085

Email: reverendjohngodfrey@gmail.com

Parish website: www.aughrim.clonfert.anglican.org

The Aughrim and Creagh Unions of parishes have been buzzing with activity and excitement in recent weeks. Throughout the late summer a flurry of builders, decorators, plumbers, electricians, carpenters and parishioners have dedicated themselves to the task of readying the rectory for the arrival of the Godfrey family on August 27th. The speed and quality of their work are testimony to the logistical skill and enthusiasm of all involved. Similar diligence and devotion went into the preparations for the institution of our new Rector in St John's Church Ballinasloe on September 4th. The result was an uplifting and joyful celebration, which will live long in the memory of all involved. See page 19 for a report and photos.

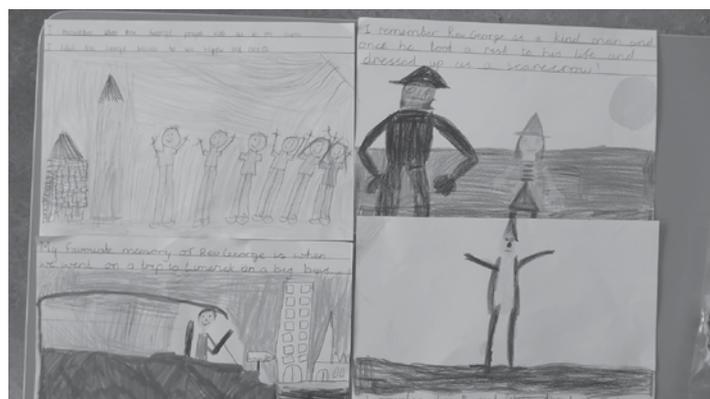
As we begin a new chapter in the life of these united parishes, we would like to thank all who have worked so hard to ensure the smooth running of our churches in recent times; especially Dean Maurice Sirr for his spiritual, administrative and pastoral leadership, Reverend Trevor Sullivan for his chaplaincy ministry in Portiuncular Hospital, and the fine team of diocesan and parish readers for all their invaluable service.

September 17th marked the first anniversary of the death of Reverend George Flynn. Gwyn and the family are in all our thoughts and prayers at this time, and we send them our deepest love and

sympathies. The students and staff of The Glebe National School marked Reverend George's anniversary with a special memorial service, in which the children shared their favourite memories of Reverend George, through songs, stories and pictures.



At the School Memorial Service



Pictures & Memories of Rev George

Our heartfelt sympathies also go out to our school secretary Carmel Murphy, following the tragic death of her husband John on September 11th. May he rest in peace.

The parish school welcomed five fine new arrivals this September, including four junior infants and a long-hoped-for second mainstream teacher – Mrs Bernie Glennon.

The new term has already kicked off with a number of events in the parish and wider community. On September 14th St John's Mothers' Union held a fun evening. On September 17th Mrs Claire Besnyoe was the guest of honour at the launch, in Loughrea Library, of a new book by local historian Ann O'Riordan: 'East Galway agrarian agitation and the burning of Ballydugan house, 1922.'

In this new chapter of our parish life we have much to be thankful for. As such, we look forward to our upcoming Harvest Thanksgiving services with renewed anticipation. Full details of our Harvest services are as follows:

Ardrahan	Sunday 4th October at 10am
Woodlawn	Friday 9th October at 8pm
Glann	Sunday 18th October at 3.30pm
Ahascragh	Friday 23rd October at 7.30pm
Ballinasloe	Sunday 25th October at 10am
Aughrim	Sunday 25th October at 3.30pm

Clonfert Group of Parishes

Clonfert, Banagher, Eyrecourt, and Portumna

Vacant

Priest in Charge: **Very Rev. Patrick L. Towers**

Tel: (090) 9684547. Mob: (086) 8140649

Email: towers.patrick@gmail.com

PARISH OF AUGHRIM & BALLINASLOE CHEERED

We extend a very warm welcome to The Reverend John Godfrey upon his appointment as the new Rector of the Aughrim and Creagh Union of Parishes. In particular those of us in the Diocese of Clonfert are delighted that the vacant position has now been filled. We wish him a very fulfilling ministry and his family a very happy time in this part of County Galway.

Those of our parish who have been visited by the new Rector during his time as a curate in Galway have spoken most highly of his reassuring and kindly visiting manner. We can thus rest reassured, should any of us have to be admitted to Portiuncula Hospital in Ballinasloe, that John is nearby.

PARISH OF CLONFERT MINISTERIALLY PRUNED

It was sort of getting lonely for many Clonfertians with the two parishes of Clonfert Diocese being vacant.

The Clonfert Parish have been given the "go-ahead" for the appointment of a Part-time Priest to minister to the Parish. For some parishioners a "Part-time priest-in-charge" is a let-down after many years of a full time Rector to the Group. Others no doubt, hearing upbeat news of other parishes with part-time Priests-in-Charge, are more sanguine knowing that what does not kill you can sometimes make you stronger.

STET FORTUNA PAROCHUS

The parish remains united, pruned yes, but no doubt the more energetic will find new ways to respond to the new arrangement and take those, who are at present in various shades of despair, into new pastures with vigour or even rigor. Let the good fortune of the parish endure.

We would like to thank The Dean of Killaloe and his Committee for their visit to the Parish and for the care and time they took in assessing the situation of the Parish.

40 THOMAS ST
LIMERICK

TEL: 061 ~ 414967
FAX: 061 ~ 415365

Thompson Undertakers
Limerick

EYRECOURT HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Sunday October 25th the Clocks go back one hour. Last month I put the start of The Harvest Festival in Eyrecourt as 7.30. In fact EYRECOURT HARVEST ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 25th will start at 7pm. This will be less stressful to your biorhythm, give more body to your breathing and put more zest into the Eyrecourt 'Haka'. This will replace the "Giving of the Peace" as a gesture of welcome.

MESSIS PORTUMNA

Portumna will have their Harvest at 4pm on Sunday October 4th. As with all Services everyone is very welcome. Do not hesitate to come in, even if you are late, even if the noise inside makes you feel hesitant to enter. Turn off your Hypersensitivity Agent Detection Device and walk on in! But make sure the Device is turned on for Halloween.

GOODBYE

Much more on Baptisms and Blessings next month with plenteous revelations and copious and consoling self-help tips to greet the onset of dark dank winter.



A Galway Hospice Coffee Morning took place in Christ Church Portumna on Fri 11th September. It was a successful morning despite the bad weather, raising €400. The event was held in the memory of Ann Menheneott. This was where she spent her last days and the treatment she received was exceptional. It was an opportunity to give something back. Ann would have been pleased.

How many church members does it take to change a light bulb?

What do you mean CHANGE??? That light bulb was given in memory of my Grandmother! My father installed it with his bare hands! He donated his time AND the use of his ladder to do it, too! My family's been members of this church for four generations! And if you think you're going to come in here and make a bunch of changes all of a sudden, Rector, you've got another think coming!

We thank our advertisers for their support - please quote Newslink when contacting them.

Limerick Diocese

Limerick City Parish

St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Michael's Pery Sq. and Abington

Dean: The Very Rev. Sandra Pragnell

The Deanery, 7 Kilbane,

Castletroy, Limerick

Tel: 061-338697 Mob: 087-2658592

Email: sandrapragnell@eircom.net

Curate Assistant: Rev Edna Wakely

50 Ballinvoher, Fr. Russell Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick

Tel: 061-302038 Mob: 086-3574917

Email: ednawakely@hotmail.com

FUNDRAISING DANCE: Many thanks to all who made the Fundraising Dance such a success which was held in the Millennium Hall, Caherconlish on 29 August in aid of St. Mary's Cathedral Flower Festival Fund. The striking poster was designed by Gillian Lyttle, now Mrs. Lee, which helped attract a large crowd. We owe Dawn & Arthur Green so much for all they did; and the ladies who organized teas. A further treat was the ballroom dancing display by 4 couples, including Dawn & Arthur Green. It was great to see so many parish couples on the dance floor and even the Dean managed a couple of dances!! Sam O'Doherty's music was superb; Many thanks to parishioners who provided food for the supper, raffle prizes and to all who supported it in any way. The final total is €1,780

NEW ANTIQUE LECTERN AND LECTERN BIBLE: On Sunday, 6th September, Rev'd Edna consecrated a beautiful antique, solid oak lectern and new lectern Bible generously donated by the O'Neill family. See page 18 for a report and photo.

On 12 September the Dean joined Canon O Malley at the Absolute Hotel to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the St Mary's Credit Union. Beginning with an inter-church prayer, the evening was to honour the original supporters of the CU – a new venture in 1965.

CULTURE NIGHT – On the 18th of September, along with many other venues across Limerick, St Mary's Cathedral opened its doors at 6pm. The Cathedral Bellringers organised a wonderful evening for the crowds of visitors who came through the doors, many of them for the first time. Young and old enjoyed trying out the practice bells in the old baptistery, and the highlight for most visitors was the opportunity to climb up the narrow winding steps up to the Ringing Chamber, to see at close hand how the bells are handled and rung. One enthusiastic visitor was overheard on her mobile telling friends what a fantastic experience it was. For those who did not want to climb up, two new monitors, a gift from Dell, allowed people at the west end of the cathedral to see the action in the chamber. The organisation was well done – groups of 15 people were allowed up at a time, to ensure safety.

For those visiting St Mary's for the first time, there were people available to flesh out some of the more interesting points of note in the cathedral. Many were over-awed by the age and history of St Mary's – where the ancient stones worked their magic on those present. A great success and many thanks to all our volunteers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN ST MICHAEL'S: Don't forget Sunday School on the first Sunday of the month. All new members most welcome.

MUSIC GROUP AT ST. MICHAEL'S: DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT????
Rev'd Edna is hoping to start a music group at St. Michael's to enhance the worship. There are already some volunteers, but it would be great if more people offered to share their musical gifts with the congregation. Please phone 061-302038 or 086-3574917.

WHIST DRIVES: Saturday 10th October - Villiers Square @ 7.30pm
Saturday 17th October - St. Michael's Church at 7.30pm with a Raffle. Entry €6 per person. Everyone very welcome.

MOTHERS' UNION: Wednesday 14th October is the date for our "Harvest Supper" which will be held in Richmond Terrace at 7pm and the tickets cost €10. This is our main fundraiser and we will be joined by Adare and Askeaton Branches. We hope for a great turnout and will have a super raffle. We will also be selling our MU cards, diaries etc. All are welcome and for more info please contact Lucy Kavanagh 087-2078850.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES IN LCP
18th October at 10am - St. Michael's Church - Family Harvest

NEWS FLASH - Please note that the Autumn Fair is now changing to a CHRISTMAS FAIR which will be held in Villiers School on Saturday 21st of November from 11am to 2pm: **WANTED:** Pots of Chutneys, jams, etc., Christmas puddings, mince meat, Good as new Bric a Brac (no electrical items), unwanted gifts, once loved Christmas Decorations, candles, books, games and good quality toys, Bottles of all sorts and Donations of non-perishable items to make up hampers for Raffle are invited. Collection boxes will be in the churches from Sunday 25th of October. All donations and all volunteers welcomed with open arms!

Let's make this year even better than last year's record-breaking effort. You can contact either Elizabeth Stanley 086-2687123 or Tracey Lyttle 086-6486197 and we can arrange, if necessary, to pick up your donations.

Adare and Kilmallock Group of Parishes

Adare, Croom, Kilmallock & Kilpeacon

Rector: Canon Liz Beasley

The Rectory, Adare, Co. Limerick.

Tel: 061 396227 Mob: 087-7199750

Email: revlizadare@gmail.com

The Adare and Kilmallock Group is back up in full swing and getting ready for Harvest Festivals. Before moving on to other news, let me mention when these Festivals were/will be:

- Friday, 25th September, at St. Nicholas, Adare, included the pupils of St. Nicholas National School and was followed by an auction of all the fruit, vegetables, and other goodies offered in the service.
- Sunday, 4th October, at the Croom Church, 10.30am. A joint service of Croom, Kilpeacon, and Adare parishes.
- Sunday, 18th October, in Kilmallock, 3.00pm. A service not only for the Kilmallock parish but for the whole group of parishes, followed by a reception next door in Coote Hall.

The parish of Adare celebrated a baptism on Sunday, 13th September. Two-month-old Robyn Marie Valerie Shire was baptised at the Sunday service, accompanied by her parents, Ian and Mandy Shire, and four godparents, and surrounded by family. Her father, Ian, a carpenter, several years ago had made the Communion table now used on Sundays at St. Nicholas. Congratulations to Robyn and to her parents.



Mandy and Ian Shire with their newly baptised daughter, Robyn.

We congratulate Hazel and Barry Leddin on the birth of a baby boy on 16th September. He joins two older sisters at home, as well as many family members in the Croom Church.

Congratulations also to Derrick Shine, of the Adare Parish, and Catriona Cregan, who were married on Friday, 28th August, in the Kilcornan Roman Catholic Church. Rector Liz Beasley assisted in the service.

On Saturday, 15th August, Rev. Liz and her husband, Kirk, along with several members of the parishes, attended the official opening of the Croom Civic Centre and Town Park by Minister Jimmy Deenihan TD. It was a great day, with several hundred people showing up to see the new park, playground, and civic centre, which includes meeting rooms and the Riverside Restaurant. A luncheon was served and the food was delicious. This is a great addition to the town of Croom, and it was a grand day.

St. Nicholas National School was back in session the first week of September, with an opening service in the church on Thursday, 10th September. It was great to welcome everyone back – both students and teachers – and see the new junior infants.

Friday, 18th September, was Culture Night throughout the country, with several events in Adare. First, the Adare Library hosted a reading of excerpts from Billy's Adare, the memoirs of long-time resident Billy Overton. James Clarke read the excerpts, and several of the older classes from St. Nicholas N.S., along with their counterparts from the other schools in Adare, attended the reading. One topic of conversation was some of the differences in daily living in bygone days, such as no electricity in the homes and getting to school in a pony and trap!



James and Meriel Clarke with three employees of the Adare Library on the occasion of the reading from Billy's Adare for Culture Night 2015.

Later in the afternoon, guided tours of St. Nicholas Church were offered as part of Culture Night. With three tour guides present, the visitors were able to receive a personal tour of the church and learn its history. The conversations with the visitors were an added bonus!

Rathkeale & Kilnaughtin Group of Parishes

Rathkeale, Askeaton, Kilcornan & Kilnaughtin

Rector: Rev. Dr. Keith Scott

The Rectory, Askeaton, Co. Limerick

Tel: 061 – 398647 Mob: 087-2885169

Email: rathkeale@limerick.anglican.org

Well it is October now, and the bustle of another autumn season is upon us. Our parishes began with a late summer confirmation, two young people, Evan Shorten and Ali Fitzell were confirmed by Bishop Kenneth on Sunday September 6th. A truly joyful occasion with Holy Trinity Rathkeale well filled with friends, family, and parishioners. Please do keep our young people in your prayers as they try to live out their Christian commitment in the world.



Evan and Ali with Bishop Kenneth following their confirmation

It is going to be a busy October beginning with our Mothers' Union branch meeting at the Rectory on Monday 5th October at 8:00 p.m.. The Mothers' Union are in action again, this time all the branches from this part of the diocese join together on Wednesday 14th October at 7:30 p.m. in Richmond Terrace, Limerick for a Harvest Supper. It will cost €10 to enter and there will be a raffle. All the funds raised will go towards overseas work. Everyone is welcome.

Our Group Harvest Service will be celebrated on Friday 16th October in St. Mary's Church Askeaton at 8:00 p.m. and we will be welcoming Rev'd Bill Olmsted, from Adare and Ballingrane Methodist Churches. Everyone is welcome to all and any of these events so come along and join the celebration.

Ardfert Diocese

Tralee & Dingle Unions of Parishes

Tralee, Ballymacelligott, Ballyseedy, Dingle, Kilgobbin and Killiney

Rector: Archdeacon Susan Watterson,

Teach an tSolais, Ashe St, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

Tel: 066 719 5416 Mob: 087 689 2025

Email: tralee@ireland.anglican.org

Rev Phyllis Jones.

The Rectory, Camp, Co. Kerry. Details later.



The Harvest season is well underway now, our first was held in Kilgobbin on September 13th. It was also an opportunity for the community to bid farewell to Joy and David Frizelle who have moved to Birr – which is nearer the family. Joy had served as Treasurer to the Vestry for many years and David's DIY and engineering skills have been invaluable in maintaining and repairing church properties in Camp, Dingle and also Tralee. At times we would have been lost without David's skill and willingness to help. All this – and a valued Diocesan Reader too, our loss is very much Birr's gain.

The Tralee Harvest will be held in St John the Evangelist Church on October 4th at the usual time of 10.45am. We look forward to welcoming Andrew Eadie – another gifted Diocesan Reader who will be our preacher. Produce will be given to our Soup Kitchen and Arlington House.

It is Ballyseedy's turn to hold the Harvest in the villages this year, and we look forward to welcoming Rev Jim Stephens back to the parish again. Children from Ballymac will join the Ballyseedy community in bringing toiletries (just one item each would be fine), and these will go into the welcome suitcases for refugees. The service is at 11am.

On October 8th at 8pm the Rev. Phyllis Jones will be welcomed into the Kilgobbin community at a service conducted by the Bishop. Phyllis and her husband Keith are well known in the area as they have family in Kerry and Phyllis has often taken services in Tralee during their summer visits. We wish Phyllis and Keith every blessing as they settle into the Rectory. Phyllis will be House for Duty Assistant and will be available on Sundays and two further days a week.

Thank you to Mona and the ladies who have faithfully kept the Honesty Table going in Tralee, and for all those who have contributed or bought goods. So far over €600 has been raised and has provided funding toward the Children's Holiday Club, equipment and furnishings for the parish apartment, and at present – carpeting in the pews is being replaced. Thank you to everyone involved.

The signed Kerry Rugby Shirt donated to Ballymac will be drawn on October 30th in O'Riorda's pub on the Castleisland Road, all are welcome.

There will be a Table Quiz in the Ashe Hotel on Friday 13th November at 8pm, more details later.

Check out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKgr5hNJYuYk&feature=youtu.be> and see St John's Parochial School singing their song for the All Ireland.

Killarney and Aghadoe Union of Parishes

Killarney, Aghadoe and Muckross

Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Simon J Lumby

The Rectory, Rookery Road, Ballycasheen, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

Tel: 064 66 31832 Mob:086-8703997

Email: killarney@ardfert.anglican.org

HARVEST SUNDAY

By the time you get to read this the annual Harvest Service will have been held in St Mary's on Sunday September 27th. Many of the congregation in St Mary's are involved in agriculture and whereas it hasn't been the best of summers for farming, it could have been a lot worse and for that we are thankful.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Sunday School recommenced on September 20th and we wish the children and their mentors – led, as always, by Lynda O'Connor – a season of success and fun. Numbers are likely to be low initially but we hope these will grow with time. We've had a few outings with the children already this year (see photographs) which they really seemed to enjoy. The first was a nature walk in the National Park at the start of the summer and we had another wonderful day walking in the Franciscan Friary walled garden. This is a very special place and the children got to hear about the life story of the saint and his love of nature. That said, we were shocked to see the beginnings of a serious infestation of Japanese knotweed in the garden. This horrendously invasive plant is becoming a very real scourge throughout the Kingdom at the moment and the local council's attempts to stem (pardon the pun!) its spread have been less than successful up to now.



THE TREE CHILDREN" on their nature walk in Killarney National Park.

THE REFUGEE CRISIS

The tragic events currently being played out at European borders has grabbed our attention and we are considering seriously any possible assistance we can offer. One initiative underway is the "suitcase appeal". Parishioners who may have used or unwanted clothing in good condition are asked to put it in a suitcase and donate it to those unfortunate migrants we are seeing on our television screens nightly. The Bishop's Appeal for refugees fleeing from all manner of war and subjection has been well supported. Perhaps we can do more, and if so we should. It has been suggested that we could offer the Muckcross Venture Centre as a possible short-term facility for housing refugees and this is being considered. There is one thing we can certainly do which will make a difference and we should all do so as often as possible and that is to say a prayer for all displaced and homeless people throughout the world.

CANDLES

The candle stand housed in the South Transept has proved to be an enormous success with both visitors and locals alike since we installed it early this year. This part of the church has become synonymous with reflection and prayer throughout each day of the week.

FOOTBALL

The annual exodus to and from Croke Park will be over by the time you read this, but as I write I'm shaking with a mixture of expectation and fear! It's hard for many in the Diocese to understand what football means to Kerry people and, indeed, sometimes we find it hard to understand ourselves. It's just in the blood, so to speak, and having had the Sam Maguire in church already this year we hope it isn't damaged in its short outing to Dublin before returning to the Kingdom. "But what if Kerry don't win" I hear you say? Of course Kerry will have won; it's in the blood you see, and there's one other thing we have in abundance: faith! Faith. Now there's a word I'll have to get back to in future editions of Newlink.

Kilcolman Union of Parishes

Kilcolman, Kiltallagh and Glenbeigh

Vacant

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev Jim Stephens

Kilderry, Milltown, Co. Kerry

Mob: 087 052 9107

Email: stephens.j@temmler.eu or stiofain.s@gmail.com

SERVICES

Kiltallagh 9.45 am (except the 1st Sunday HC at 7pm)

HC 1st & 3rd

MP 2nd & 4th

Killorglin 11.00 pm

HC 2nd & 4th

MP 1st & 3rd

"SONGS OF PRAISE"

The concert will be held on 7th October in St. Michael's Church @8pm, when we plan to have the Men's Shed Choir and the Ladies' Choir as well as a lot of people coming along to sing their hearts out. Even if you can't sing please come along and enjoy the music!

ANNUAL SALE OF WORK

This will be held in the CYMS Killorglin on the afternoon of the Saturday 17th October, beginning at 1pm. I would encourage everyone to get involved and support this important community building and fund raising event with all the usual stalls. Preparation of the hall will begin early in the morning.

BAPTISM

Noah Jacob son of Ciara and Caroline was welcomed into the Christian family at the morning service on Sunday the 7th Sept. We pray for Caroline, Ciara and as they raise their son within the family of the church.

RUBY WEDDING CELEBRATION

Congratulations to Kenneth and Mary O'Neill of Milltown who celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary in the context of liturgy, during which they renewed their marriage vows. This was followed by a meal with family, friends and neighbours in the Castlerosse Hotel, Killarney on Saturday the 29th August.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Sunday school began on Sunday 13th of September, I urge all parents with primary school children to support the Sunday school programme. I would like to thank the leaders who put so much hard work into it. This year we are urging children, parents and parishioners alike to collect :- used stamps and ring pulls. The Sunday School leaders will place containers in the church so that these can be collected and donated to charities who can make good use of them.

We also plan to support the Christmas Shoe box Appeal, More news Later on this.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy and solidarity to the Giles family of Faha on the sudden and unexpected death of Richard, a much loved son, brother, brother-in law and uncle. The community of Faha and mid Kerry, together with the farming and agricultural contacting community were shocked on hearing news of his sudden death.

There were large crowds at his removal on the Saturday evening and at his funeral service in Killorglin on Sunday afternoon. A large group of Farmers, agricultural contractors and friends provided a guard of honour as the funeral cortege made its way through Milltown village to Kilcolman Church for the burial, This was a testament to the esteem in which Richard and his family are held and a sign of friendship and support at a difficult time.



At our confirmation in June, with Bishop Kenneth: Niall Murphy, Alex Boyle, Ramona Clifford, Seamus Giles & GraceDaly.

Kenmare & Dromod Union of Parishes

Kenmare, Sneem, Waterville and Valentia
 Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Michael Cavanagh
 St Patrick's Rectory, Kenmare, Co. Kerry.
 Tel: 064 664 8566 Mob: 087 1606312
 Email: michael.cavanagh@eircom.net

Editor: Rev Michael has been in hospital undergoing cardiac surgery. We are delighted to learn as we go to press that he is doing well and has just returned home. He is in our thoughts and prayers and we wish him a speedy and complete recovery. We look forward to his return to the columns of Newslink in due course!



Bishop Kenneth pictured with Fr Gerard Finnuane and some Charlie Chaplin lookalikes, after the Charlie Chaplin Festival Service in St Mary's Church Waterville, Co. Kerry. This is the fourth year the parish has been involved in the annual festival, which this year drew over 150 Charlies to Waterville in an (unsuccessful) attempt to beat the world record

Methodist News

Adare & Ballingrane Methodist Circuit

Minister: Rev Bill Olmsted
 Methodist Manse, Rathkeale Rd,
 Adare, Co. Limerick.
 Tel: 061 396236
 Email: william@olmsteds.net

No notes supplied. Rev Bill Olmsted is indisposed.

Christ Church Limerick, united Presbyterian & Methodist and Christ Church Shannon, joint Methodist, Presbyterian and Church of Ireland

Minister: Rev. Vicki Lynch
 The Manse, 15 Aylesbury,
 Clonmacken, Limerick.
 Tel: 061 325325 Mobile: 086 8292073
 Email: vickilynch@eircom.net

At the Autumn Synod last month we spent some time working with Rev Dr John Parkin and his wife Liz thinking about our multi-ethnic churches. We were talking about the nature of multi-ethnic church, a process which Liz and John have creatively renamed Singing a New Song, and the upcoming multi-ethnic day which is themed Making Connections. The aim for the day is to hear stories of intercultural encounter from panel members who have moved from one part of the world to another and to hear the experiences of the conference participants from around the Connexion.

At the conference last year Rev Dr Sahr Yambasu identified cultural differences as the main challenge in holding together, building, nurturing and sustaining multi-ethnic churches. The hope now is to be able to identify points of connection as well as recognise points of difference, through conversation, listening and enjoying each other's company as well as worship and reflection.

It's a challenge for churches to remain diverse. Many churches seem to move towards cultural similarity. I hope, like many others, that we can find ways of celebrating our diversity by becoming truly intercultural and truly one in Christ.

We've begun our work in CB1 and now have a lovely new coffee dock. We have exhibitions from October 6th right up to Christmas so we hope you'll visit, enjoy a cuppa and a biscuit or two and take in the artwork. We're encouraging people to have meetings in the space or start a group – knit and natter for example; maybe you would like to get together and speak Irish or run a book club. The space is there and we invite you – or maybe challenge you – to come up with a creative way to enjoy it. If you've always wanted to put on an exhibition but have never got round to it, now's your chance. Come and talk to us and we'll listen, over a cup of coffee of course.

Part of the reason we're able to launch CB1 in this way is due to the generosity of the Joseph Rank Trust. We also discovered how well they look after the groups and people they fund. We were invited up



Plat It By Ear

to a day in the Kilbroney Centre near Rostrevor. We were very well looked after and amply fed and both encouraged and challenged as we shared our projects and experiences with each other. One of the projects that has been funded is Play It By Ear. Ross Jonas and Chris Neilands are two actors who

have got together to form a company which helps local churches and church groups use drama in worship or as part of their programme. Every project that came along to the day was asked to present in some way or other what they were about and rather surprisingly Ross and Chris got us all acting. We weren't expecting it at all but it really was great fun and in one short presentation and very practical experience we got some brilliant and straight forward ideas that we could easily use. Play It By Ear is based in Belfast but they do travel!
<https://www.facebook.com/playitbyearadrama>

We're looking forward to hearing Regan Hutchins' programme in November on RTE Lyric FM. One Sunday at the end of September Regan visited us and several other churches in Limerick exploring different themes. He explained that when he visits a new town or city he gravitates towards the churches and cathedrals; they seem to give him a sense of place in a strange place! We have no idea what he'll make of the conversations he had with us and the recordings he made of the worship but we really enjoyed him being with us and he certainly got a very warm welcome.

Killarney, Kenmare & Millstreet Methodist Churches

[part of the Cork South & Kerry Circuit]

Minister: Rev. Karen Spence

10 Flesk Grove, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

Tel: 064 6631613 Mob: 0838421153

Email: karen.spence@irishmethodist.org

Web site: www.irishmethodist.org/kerry

Lay assistants:

Ed & Jean Ritchie (Kenmare) Suzie Gallagher (Killarney)

In July we welcomed Rev Karen Spence and her husband Edwin to the circuit having said a fond farewell to Laurence and his family as they moved to Dublin. Karen comes to the circuit having ministered in churches in Belfast where she was also involved in a Fresh Expression of church in the Titanic Quarter initially working alongside Rev Chris Bennett (CofI). Karen brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in nurturing disciples and new forms of mission.

There have been many 'full houses' in Killarney on Sunday mornings as we gather to worship with visitors joining with us from all parts of the world so it has taken a while to discover who is a holiday maker and who is part of the congregation.

It is exciting to see so many people meet to pray, study the bible and drop in for coffee during the week in all three of the churches. When the doors are open people are often drawn inside and find themselves seeking prayer!

Kenmare's youth club started again and new members came along! Again the Wednesday morning Bible study and drop in have been amazing times of fellowship under the leadership of Ed and Jean Ritchie. Their faithfulness in the work they do for God is inspiring to all!

The Lighthouse in Millstreet is open on Thursday mornings creating a safe space for people to have a coffee and a chat. God is using all of these 'drop-ins' to create opportunities for prayer and conversations which can be life transforming and we are grateful for what God is doing!

Killarney Methodist Church East Avenue Killarney

Sunday services at 9am & 11am (including a programme for children at 11am) Communion at both services on the 1st Sunday of the month

Prayer meetings: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8am – 9am

Bible study: Wednesday 7.30pm & Friday 10am

Drop in for coffee: Friday 11am – 12pm

Parent & Toddler: Tuesday 10am – 12pm

Gateway at Kenmare, Gortamullin, Killarney Road, Kenmare

Sunday service: 11am coffee from 10.30am (incl. a programme for children)

Bible study/fellowship: Tuesdays 8pm & Wednesdays 10am

Drop in for coffee: Wednesdays 11am – 12pm

Youth club: 2nd & 4th Saturday 7pm – 8.30pm

Millstreet at The Lighthouse, Town Square

Sunday service: Weekly at 6.30pm

Bible study: Tuesdays 7.30pm Open to anyone

Drop in: Thursdays 9.30am – 12.30pm

Dingle: Bible study: 2nd Thursday of each month in BeenBawn; also the last Thursday of each month in Lispole, and the last Sunday of each

month meeting in Gairdin Mhuire Day Care centre, Green Street, Dingle. All welcome

Castleisland: meeting for Bible study on the last Monday of each month at 7.30pm in An Riocht, Cragreens, Castleisland. All welcome

'No Biscuits' ladies lifestyle group meets on the last Monday of each month at 11am

North Tipperary Methodist Circuit

Minister: Rev Shannon DeLaureal

The Manse, The Mall, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0505 21670 Mobile: 085 1920 808

Email: Shannon.delaureal@irishmethodist.org

Sunday Services:

10:00am – Borrisokane

11:30am – Cloughjordan on 1st & 2nd Sundays

10:15am – Cloughjordan on 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays

11:45am – Roscrea

7:00pm – Shinrone

"How is it with your soul?" is a question John Wesley would ask his preachers as well as the people called Methodists as a way to measure the present spiritual state of a person. It's a question we should often ask ourselves and others. Wesley believed that the soul needed nurturing in order to be formed more into the image of Christ. He organised people into small groups, called bands, where they could offer care and nurture as well as challenge, when needed. His premise was to watch over one another in love and to grow in discipleship.

On the N. Tipperary circuit, we hope to establish new small groups over the next year so that we can watch over one another in love and grow in our love for and service to our Lord. You are invited! How is it with your soul? Would you be interested in a small group faith-based book study or a discipleship group? Have a think! If you are curious, please get in touch with me.

Faithfully,

Rev. Shannon DeLaureal

PIANO CONCERT - Wednesday 7 October at 8pm in Cloughjordan Methodist - Award-winning pianist John Nilsen, from Portland, Oregon, USA, will offer a piano concert you won't want to miss. Entry is free. A love-offering to help cover his expenses will be received. Refreshments to follow in Church Hall. Bring a friend for a delightful and entertaining evening.

WEEKLY BIBLE-STUDY resuming around the circuit. All are welcome to attend; no Bible-knowledge is necessary to join in. Come as you are to learn. Theme will be "Hospitality and Sanctuary."

- Borrisokane Methodist Church Vestry – begins on Monday 5 October at 7:30pm
- Roscrea Methodist Church Vestry – we plan to join together with our Anglican friends on Thursdays; date and time to be decided.

ST. CRONAN'S BOYS' BRIGADE (ROSCREA) – The company is resuming and welcomes back old members. We are delighted new members (Senior Infants) have joined us. We will meet on Fridays 2nd and 23rd October at 7pm in the Methodist Church Hall. On Friday 16th October, there is a regional activity at Roll 'n Bowl, Portlaoise for members in 3rd – 6th class. St. Cronan's Youth Club – The club is back in its Autumn schedule and plans to meet on Saturday 17th October from 7-9pm in Methodist Church Hall, Roscrea. €2/youth. Any questions, please contact Rosie Gee at 086 1973311.

Revolutionising Homecare in Ireland



An Expert Team Delivering Exceptional Service

Call our expert team on 0818 227 052



Quality
Certified



2

Nationwide
Service

1



3

CSR &
Advocacy

4



FETAC
Trained
Staff



www.bluebirdcare.ie



- Caring "family" environment with dedicated staff.
- Consistently excellent academic achievement.
- Promotes the holistic development of your child.
- Broad range of sports available:- Rugby, Hockey, Basketball and Athletics.
- Modern facilities.
- Comprehensive Transition Year Programme with wide ranging opportunities.
- Varied and multi-cultural society.
- Protestant ethos.
- Reasonable fees.
- Grant assistance, bursaries & scholarships available.



Bursaries & Discounts

In addition to the SEC and other grants available Villiers School offer the following assistance with fees: Hannah Villiers Bursary. Governors' Bursary. Villiers School Bursary. Sibling Discounts.

Scholarships

Four Academic Scholarships, currently €1,000 per year, are awarded based on the results of the scholarships exams set each May for students entering Form I. These are awarded to the best Day Girl, Day Boy, Boarding Girl and Boarding Boy.

Prompt Payment Draw

All families who pay before a specified date each semester are entered into a draw for a refund of their net fees for that semester. Please contact our School Bursar for specific information on all our grants, scholarships and bursaries. All enquiries are dealt with in the strictest of confidence - bursar@villiers-school.com

Weekend bus service - Killaloe, Ballina, Nenagh, Borrisokane, Birr, Roscrea. ** New route - Tralee, Killarney, Tarbert and Listowel.



VILLIERS SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1821

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL

Headmistress - Jill A Storey M.A. H.DIP. Ed (Hons) DIP. in REM. Ed. (Hons)

North Circular Road, Limerick

Telephone: (061) 451447 / 451400 Fax: (061) 455333

E-mail: secretary@villiers-school.com Web Site: www.villiers-school.com