



# NEWSLINK

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

## INSIDE

View from the Pew in China p.15



Ballingrane 250th Anniversary p.17



Archdeacon of Limerick Simon Lumby p.18



Nenagh welcomes Rev Rod Smyth p.19



Bishop Kenneth writes p.3

Prayer Corner p.5

Priorities Fund open p.16

Clonmacnoise Summer School 2016 p.18

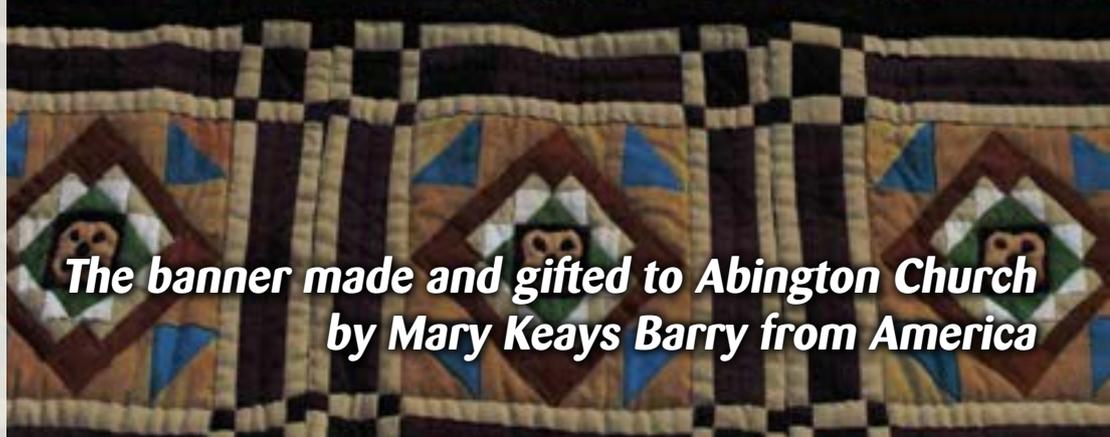
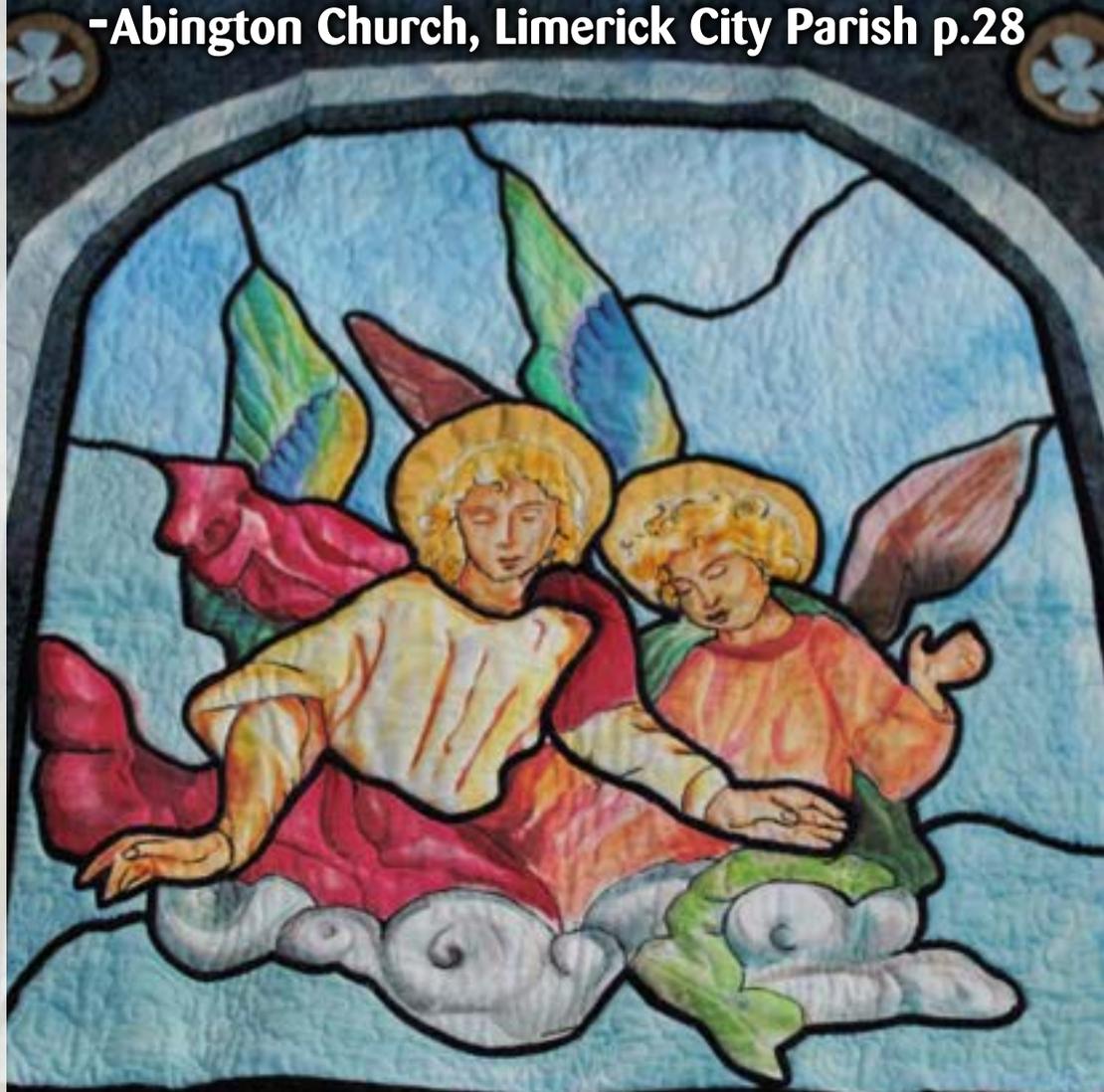
Birr Patronal Service p.21



including Methodist District News p. 33

## The Angels of County Limerick

-Abington Church, Limerick City Parish p.28



*The banner made and gifted to Abington Church by Mary Keays Barry from America*



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# Bishop Kenneth writes

Brexit means Brexit, but what does Brexit mean? What will be the implications of Brexit for our own country, and for Northern Ireland? And so the questions go, following the surprise decision (at least a surprise to the media!) of the citizens of the United Kingdom to vote to leave the European Union. Everyone it appears has become an armchair expert on European economics and the possibility of trade agreements.

One dimension of all of this has been forgotten, but was clearly in the minds of the originators of the European Union and its predecessors – it is the role of the Union in preserving peace in Europe.

During most of the 19th century much of the European mainland was at war – sometimes major confrontations, often smaller more localised battles which dragged on for years, bringing untold suffering and misery to vast tracts of Europe. The 20th century saw two World Wars, mostly fought on European soil, bringing death and destruction on a scale never seen before in human history. The First World War was to be the “war to end all wars” and yet in 20 years the same countries were at war again.

So it came that in 1950 the French Foreign Minister, Robert Schuman proposed a European Coal and Steel Community as a way to prevent further war between France and Germany. By creating a treaty based on the raw materials of industrialisation, coal and steel, he hoped that another war between France and Germany would be impossible. He said his aim was to “make war not only unthinkable but materially impossible” by creating a common market between the two countries on these two basic resources. That treaty controlled the two basic raw materials for the armaments industry.

The European Coal and Steel Community with the addition of other states gradually became the European Economic Community (E.E.C.) and then the European Union.

Today we think of the E.U. as a huge trading and economic organisation – which it is – but we should also remember its role in maintaining peace in Europe, and today making war unthinkable among the major European nations. That commitment to making and sustaining peace is still there in the principles of the European Union, and I’m sure was behind the rapid accession of the Eastern European countries of the former Soviet Union. The same was true in the now stalled negotiations with Turkey over E.U. membership, recognising the dangers that war in the Middle East could rapidly escalate into another world war, and Turkey’s pivotal role in that region.



The people of the United Kingdom have made their decision, and it is not for me to question the wisdom or otherwise of that decision. However, peace is a priceless commodity and in whatever structures that emerge, we mustn't lose sight of that founding vision, that peace is sustained through co-operation, sharing and mutual understanding.

Sincerely,  
+Kenneth  
The Rt. Revd. Kenneth Kearon  
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## Diocesan Calendar

(for updates see Diocesan web site – [www.limerick.anglican.org](http://www.limerick.anglican.org))

- Sat 1st October, 7.30–9.00pm** Birr Praise – contemporary worship for all ages, St Brendan's Church, Birr
- Sat 8th October 11.00am** Open Day at Villers School
- Sat 8th October** UDYC Multi Activity Day, Birr Outdoor Education Centre (NS 3rd – 6th class)
- Sat 15th October, 7.30–9.30pm** UDYC Fellowship Group, Richmond Terrace, Henry St, Limerick City.
- Thu 20th October, 8.15pm** Whist Drive, Aghancon Hall
- Sat 29th – Mon 31st Oct** Anois, Wilson's Hospital School, Multifarnham, Co. Westmeath (2nd Level up)
- Fri 4th November, 8pm** Aghancon Parish host Brendan Shine in County Arms Hotel, Birr
- Sat 5th November, 7pm** Historical Evening, St Michaels Church, Killorglin – Conor Jay on "Conflicting Voices from the Kingdom"
- Fri 11th – Sun 13th November** UDYC Junior Weekend, Durrow Centre, Durrow, Co Laois (age 10–13)
- Sun 13th November, 1.30pm** Sunday Lunch in Aghancon Hall (note change of date)
- Sat 19th November, 7.30–9.30pm** UDYC Fellowship Group, Richmond Terrace, Henry St, Limerick City (2nd level students)
- Sat 26th November** UDCY Annual Christmas Dinner Dance with Fundraising Raffle, Woodlands House Hotel, Adare (5th year upwards)



## Lunchtime Concerts at St Mary's

1.15pm in St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

Academos (Irish World Academy Strings)

Appearing by the kind arrangement of the Irish Chamber Orchestra

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

Aldo de Vero & Giuseppe Camprisi (piano duo)

The first visit to Limerick by this Italian duo on tour in Eire

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

Robert Crowe (male soprano), Simon Harden (piano)

We explore the intriguing musical world of the Italian male castrato Velluti

*Free admission - retiring collection in aid of  
the Companions of St Mary's Cathedral Music*

# Editorial - Sourdough

There is a new creature living on top of my fridge – or more precisely a whole new eco-system of creatures, bubbling away in a pudding basin on top of the fridge I share with my wife Marty. She has started a new project – to make sourdough bread.

The first step was to make a sourdough starter. This is a culture of flour and water in which wild yeasts and friendly Lactobacillus bacteria flourish, breaking down the starches in the flour into sugars on which they live – they are what give sourdough bread its good flavour. This took several days. On the first day she mixed flour and water and left it above the fridge to stay warm. Wild yeasts and bacteria are everywhere – on the flour, in the air. Soon they began to multiply in the culture. They are living creatures that need feeding, which she did each day with a little more flour and water, until the culture became very bubbly, and the starter was ready to use. If fed occasionally sourdough starter will live indefinitely – some bakeries in California, where sourdough bread is a speciality, claim to have been using the same starter since the Gold Rush in the 1850s!

So far she has made two loaves. The first, baked in a bowl in the oven, had a lovely crust and good flavour, but was heavy and stodgy. The second, baked in her bread-machine had a better texture, but little flavour and poor crust. I hope she continues to experiment until she has learned how to turn out a good product consistently. Then I shall be in very heaven!

Why I am telling you this oh-so-domestic story? Because it reminds me of the parable of the yeast told by Jesus (Luke 13:20-21)

*To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.*

The Church should be like the sourdough starter. We Christians are like the microbes working in the culture. In all our diversity the Holy Spirit inspires us to live in expectation that God has a use for us, to leaven the world he has created, to build his kingdom. And God is faithful – he has placed us in a warm place, he promises to continue to feed us, and his kingdom will come.

God bless, Joc Sanders

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

# Newslink

Newslink is the diocesan magazine for the United Diocese of Limerick, Killaloe Et Ardfert, which also includes the historic dioceses of Aghadoe, Clonfert, Emly, Kilfenora and Kilmacduagh. For further information about the United Dioceses see the diocesan web site: [www.limerick.anglican.org](http://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.

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## Deadlines

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**All material must reach the Editor by Friday 21st October 2016 before 6.00pm, by email only, unless otherwise agreed.**

Late material cannot be guaranteed insertion.

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

## NEWSLINK ADVERTISING RATES FOR 2016

(UNCHANGED from 2015, full page is A4 portrait, half page A5 landscape etc)

	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 2016

### Each Sunday in October

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.

### 2nd October, 19th Sunday after Trinity, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of West Africa and Most Revd Dr Daniel Sarfo, Primate & Metropolitan, and Archbishop of the Internal province of Ghana and Bishop of Kumasi.

Diocese: For the farming community throughout our United Dioceses, giving thanks for and celebrating the harvest of the land.

### 9th October, 20th Sunday after Trinity, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church in the Province of the West Indies and Most Revd & The Hon Dr John Holder, Archbishop of West Indies & Bishop of Barbados.

Diocese: In the week of the feast of St Philip the Deacon we pray for all in our United Dioceses who preach the good news of Jesus Christ, that their ministry may be blessed.

### 16th October, 21st Sunday after Trinity, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of Ceylon and Rt Revd Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabay, Bishop of Colombo.

Diocese: In the week of the feast of St Luke, patron saint of physicians and surgeons, we pray for all who practice medicine and surgery in our United Dioceses, that their work of healing may be blessed.

### 23rd October, 5th Sunday before Advent, Green

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba, Rt Revd Griselda Delgado Del Carpio, Bishop of Cuba, and Rt Revd Ulises Prendes, Suffragan Bishop of Cuba.

Diocese: On the feast day of St James the Brother of Our Lord, leader of the earliest Church in Jerusalem, we pray for Kenneth our Bishop and for Patrick, Bishop of Tuam, Killala and Achonry, as they lead our inter-diocesan discussions over the next 2 years.

### 30th October, 4th Sunday before Advent, Green (or All Saints, transferred from 1st November, White)

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Bermuda and Rt Revd Nicholas Dill, Bishop of Bermuda.

Diocese: We pray for ourselves and all Christian people in our United Dioceses, that the example of your Holy Saints may encourage us in Christ's service.

### 6th November, 3rd Sunday before Advent, Green

Church of Ireland: The Diocese of Cork, Cloyne & Ross and Bishop Paul Colton.

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

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Lusitanian Church (Portugal) and Rt Revd José Jorge De Pina Cabral, Bishop of the Lusitanian Church.

Diocese: In the week of the presidential elections in the United States of America we pray for the leaders of every nation, that they may be guided by your Holy Spirit.

## Harvest Prayers from Christian Aid

### Prayer of approach

God, giver of all life and of our lives,  
blessed are you in the fruits of the earth  
blessed are you in the work of human hands  
blessed are you in the harvest of human creativity.

God of the poor and hungry,  
blessed are you in the striving for justice  
blessed are you in the fragility of peace-making  
blessed are you in the grace of hospitality.

God of the great feast and the simple meal,  
blessed are you in the sowing of seed  
blessed are you in the breaking of bread  
blessed are you in the sharing of bread  
blessed are you in our daily bread.

### Prayer of confession

Gracious God,  
because we believe that your mark is abundance,  
and your love is overflowing,  
we come before you not in fear,  
but in the knowledge that we can be redeemed,  
and ask for a breaking down of all the barriers  
we create  
that block your life and love.

And so we pray:

for the times we lose sight of your blessings  
and forget to give thanks for our daily bread  
and the simple pleasures of sharing food  
seduced by the false promises of a consumer culture:  
forgive us.

For the ways we build ever bigger barns  
and store up our wealth  
and worry about tomorrow  
without heeding the needs of the world today:  
forgive us.

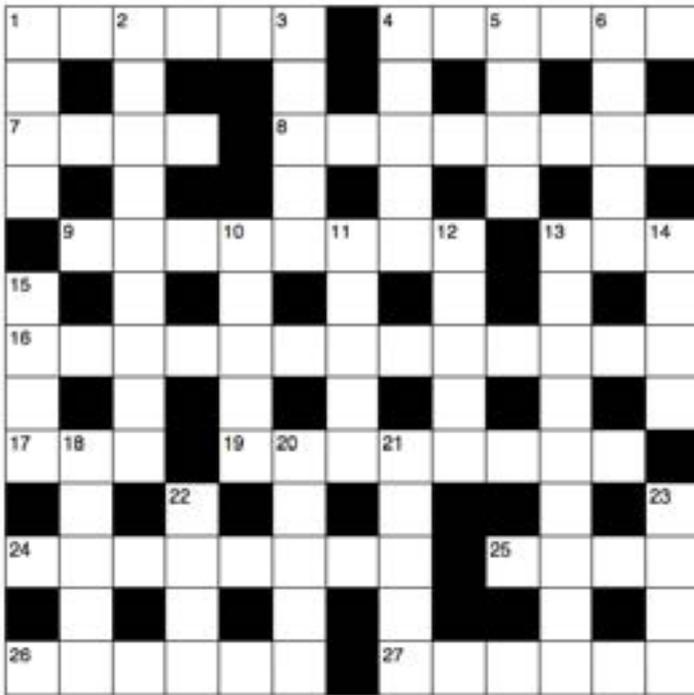
For the things that dull our reactions  
so that we can read stories of hardship and poverty  
without feeling moved, provoked  
or anything very much at all:  
forgive us.

And in the knowledge that in Jesus our sins are forgiven  
inspire us with your kind and generous love  
to build a world where all have enough. Amen

### Christian Aid Harvest prayer

The earth is fruitful  
may we be generous.  
The earth is fragile  
may we be gentle.  
The earth is fractured  
may we be just.  
Creating God,  
harvest in us joy and generosity  
as we together share in thanks and giving.  
Amen

# Crossword October 2016



## ACROSS

- 1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)  
 4 'For we must all – before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)  
 7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their – end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)  
 8 See 19 Across  
 9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest (Luke 9:46) (8)  
 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)  
 16 'He has sent me to bind up the – ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)  
 17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)  
 19 and 8 ' – a great company of the – host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)  
 24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)  
 25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)  
 26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)  
 27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a – ' (John 2:16) (6)

## DOWN

- 1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)  
 2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)  
 3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)  
 4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born – ' (John 3:3) (5)  
 5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)  
 6 'He encouraged them – – remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)  
 10 Ruses (anag.) (5)  
 11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)  
 12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)  
 13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)  
 14 'This is my – , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)  
 15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)  
 18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)  
 20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)  
 21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)  
 22 Bats (anag.) (4)  
 23 'You strain out a – but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

## Solution to the September Crossword

**ACROSS:** 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, Ill at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.

**DOWN:** 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear..

## The value of open doors

by Peter Barley

The value and importance of all our churches being open as much as possible (whether Church of Ireland, Methodist, Roman Catholic or another denomination) was demonstrated rather unexpectedly on the afternoon of Saturday 27th August during 'Pedal Power', a National Heritage Week event organised by Limerick Smarter Travel and the Limerick Pipe Organ Festival.

A young homeless woman in considerable distress came in during the organ playing in Christ Church, O'Connell Street, Limerick. She spoke to a member of the Organ Festival committee and during this conversation it transpired that she was suicidal and wanted to talk to someone.

Several lines of help were investigated for her in the course of the next hour, including hostels/places to sleep, the suggestion of calling the Samaritans and so forth – but it turned out that the thing she appeared to want and need most was someone to talk to face to face. During this ordinary human interaction with several kind members of Limerick Smarter Travel and the Limerick Pipe Organ Festival she seemed to calm down a little. Maybe just this tangible sign that someone cared made a difference for her.

What came to mind were those lovely words from the well-known end of service Blessing: "strengthen the faint hearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honour everyone".

## SCRIBBLE BOX



The harvest produce was taken to the old people's bungalows

# Diocesan Organisations

## Girls Friendly Society

### BIRR BRANCH

Birr branch started back on 13th September. They welcomed lots of new members to the branch. As a fun start to the year and, as part of the Dance Badge, Kelly and Michelle brought in Kelly's Irish dancing costume, shoes and wigs. Kelly gave an Irish dancing demonstration and taught the girls a simple Irish dance. They also played some games.

In two weeks' time the branch meets again when they will prepare for their Opening Service on 2nd October. They will then begin their crafts and bible study.

Birr branch meetings are held on alternate Tuesdays at 3pm in Oxmantown School. Further details from Diane Dagg at 087 6334731

### CLOUGHJORDAN BRANCH

The branch gave a warm welcome to everybody starting or returning to Cloughjordan GFS. They held an Ice-cream Party on Wednesday, 14th September. Everyone enjoyed delicious ice-cream complete with toppings. It was a very tasty treat for everyone. There was lots of chat as everyone caught up with friends after the long summer break. Afterwards the girls enjoyed games and an obstacle course. It was fantastic fun. The branch looks forward to starting the Crafts and Bible Study – full details are available from the Branch Leaders.

### NENAGH BRANCH

Nenagh branch will reopen for meetings in October. We welcome our new Reactor, Rev. Rod Smyth and look forward to getting to know him and Rosemary.

For further information on Nenagh Branch please contact Rose Langley – 087-6758896

ALL IRELAND LEADER TRAINING WEEKEND was held in the Theological Institute, Dublin (9-11 September). The Diocese was represented by Grace Healy of Cloughjordan branch. Grace reports that she heard some very interesting presentations – Alison Jackson gave a talk on Charity law and accountability. Trevor Stafford gave a very informative talk on Presentation Skills. Bible Study was presented by Jennifer Maybury and Sarah Miller. Jane Cunningham gave those present ideas for the upcoming crafts and Sylvia Quinn discussed diocesan roles and NSQF. Many thanks to Grace for representing this Diocese at this important training event.

GFS NEWSLETTER The Summer 2016 editions is now available – please check with Branch Leaders or Diocesan Secretary, Michele Armitage, if you have not received or seen a copy.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Birr Branch Opening Service – 2nd October in St. Brendan's church, Birr.
- Diocesan Council Meeting will take place in the Back Vestry of St. Mary's Church, Nenagh on Wednesday, 9th November at 8pm. Apologies please to [rose.langley@gmail.com](mailto:rose.langley@gmail.com)
- Christmas Craft Day will take place on Saturday, 28th November in Oxmantown School Birr. All proceeds from this event go towards GFS Diocesan Camp in June. This is a great opportunity to meet up with friends from all the branches for an afternoon of exciting Christmas craft making. It is always a great start to the Christmas season.

### UPCOMING DUBLIN MEETINGS

- Finance Meeting, 22nd October at 10.45
- Central Council Meeting, 12th November at 11.00 am.
- World Council in Australia – Closing date for receipt of Booking Deposit and registration forms is 30th November.

All the branches are looking forward to sharing lots of fun and fellowship together in the year ahead.

## Mothers' Union

### "CELEBRATION OF FAITH"

**October 7/8th** Women's Getaway Weekend, Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo

**October 15th** All Ireland Council, Springfield Hotel, Leixlip

**October 22nd** Diocesan Trustee and Council Meeting, Embury Close, Adare

**November 3rd** Mothers' Union All Ireland Holy Communion Service 11.15am Christ Church Cathedral being hosted by the Limerick & Killaloe Diocese – All very welcome and it would be lovely to see representation from this diocese

**November 26th** Mothers' Union All Ireland Vigil for Gender Based Violence – St. Brendan's Church of Ireland, Birr 3-4.30pm

### LIMERICK CITY BRANCH

Almost thirty members and friends heard a most interesting talk from Nutritional Therapist Olivia Beck at our September meeting. Olivia spoke about the importance to our general health of keeping a correct balance in our digestive tracts by eating, as far as possible, natural and home cooked foods and avoiding processed products. Our opening service was held at 8.00pm in St. Michael's on Tuesday 27th September when we again welcomed members from Askeaton and Adare. The service was conducted by Canon Marie Rowley-Brooke and the very special speaker was our Diocesan President, Lucy Kavanagh.

In October we are looking forward to travelling to Adare for a Harvest Supper which will be a fund-raiser for the work of Mothers' Union Worldwide.



*Olivia Beck, Nutritional Therapist, Margaret Schutz, Branch Leader, Betty Brislane, MU member and Bev Callendar, MU member*

### BIRR MOTHERS' UNION

Birr Mothers' Union invites everyone interested to come to Oxmantown School at 8:00 pm on Thursday, 13th October for 'Fashion With a Difference and Wardrobe Revival Class'. Entry €5.

### ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION 2017

There will be an increase in the annual contribution for the year beginning 1st January 2017. The amount of the contribution will not be known until after the Trustee Meeting to be held mid October. Money should NOT be collected until 1st January, 2017 to meet 'Charity Law' requirements.

Florence Reid (Finance & Central Services)

# United Diocesan Youth Council

## COMMITTEE RETREAT WEEKEND

On the 26th & 27th August 2016, 10 members of the UDYC Committee gathered together in Lahinch for an over-night retreat. We shared a wonderful meal together prepared for us by Emma, Valerie and Andrew, followed by worship. It was a great way for the committee to catch up and chat with one another outside of meetings. The next day we had the chance to stroll around Lahinch and get some fresh air. We returned to the Clare Care centre where we were joined by Canon Jane Galbraith who led us in worship and an insightful study in various passages of the Bible. We are very grateful for her input. After lunch we packed up our bags and said our farewells. It was a very enjoyable two days and fun was had by all. It was a great way to end the summer holidays.

## CAR TREASURE HUNT & BARBECUE

On Saturday 3rd of September, UDYC Fundraising Car Treasure Hunt and Barbecue & Disco took place at Aghancon Community Hall, Aghancon, Roscrea, Co Tipperary. Very many thanks to those that attended and it was really good to meet those that came on the evening.

## DAMIAN SHORTEN & GEORGE WALKER

We are delighted to announce that Damian Shorten was commissioned by Bishop Ferran Glenfield on Sunday 11th September as Diocesan Reader and will be Lay Pastor for three churches (Riverstown, Ballysumaghan & Kilmactranny) including living in a rectory in Co. Sligo. We wish Damian the very best in this new and exciting role.

We also wish George Walker (Croom Parish) the very best, who has joined The Stepney Intern Scheme (Diocese of London) as an intern. This is a year-long scheme to help people explore vocation. It will include practical experience of parish ministry, community living, and time for study and vocational discernment.

## FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Fellowship Group met on Saturday evening 17th September and Rev Liz Beasley spoke and led worship. She spoke about how we are very grateful on the theme of "Finding Faith - a Personal Story".

We look forward to future Fellowship Group meetings on Saturday 15th October, 19th November & 17th December from 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm. The group will meet at Dining Room, Basement Richmond Terrace, Henry Street, Limerick City. Participation is welcome from those attending secondary school.

## BIRR PRAISE

Birr Praise will be a Contemporary Worship service for all ages taking place in St. Brendan's Church Birr on Saturday 1st October at 7.30 pm. We look forward to this event and do hope that as many people as possible will come to partake in this exciting new venture. There will be a bus from Limerick, Nenagh, Moneygall & Roscrea to and from this event.

## MULTIACTIVITY DAY

We look forward to our Multi Activity Day and Birr Outdoor Education Centre for all those from 3rd to 6th class in National School from 10 am to 7 pm on Saturday 8th October 2016. A bus will operate to and from the event serving Limerick, Nenagh, Moneygall & Roscrea. The day will include a great mix of worship, games and outdoor activities. Booking Essential and booking forms are available.

ANOIS (pronounced "ah-nish", the Irish word for "now")

... is an annual residential organised by the Church of Ireland Youth Department for young people of secondary school age from

across the island. We want to encourage young people to explore faith "NOW": Remember your Creator in the days of your youth- Ecclesiastes 12:1 We gather to learn from the Bible, to praise God, to pray and of course to have as much fun together as we can possibly squeeze into one weekend!

This year Anois will be at Wilson's Hospital School, Multyfarnham, Co. Westmeath from Saturday 29th to Monday 31st October 2016 (Bank Holiday Weekend). The theme is "Legends of the Faith" and during our worship times we will be exploring stories of Old Testament heroes. Their stories will inspire us to live out our Christian faith in everyday life. If you're up for the challenge and adventure ANOIS provides, come along this year - you'll not regret it!

Rev. Alan Breen (Curate - St Patrick's Parish, Greystones - Diocese of Dublin & Glendalough) is the main speaker. The Mark Ferguson Band will return once again this year to lead worship.

Return transport is available from most places in Ireland including Limerick, Nenagh & Roscrea. The cost for bookings before Monday 17th October is €80 with a fee for return transport of an additional €20. This increases by €10 after Monday 17th October. There will be 50% discount to 2nd and further siblings.

For online booking, and more details of the programme see [www.ciyd.org/anois](http://www.ciyd.org/anois).

## JUNIOR WEEKEND

Please note that our Junior Weekend for 10 - 13 year olds will take place from Friday 11th to Sunday 13th November at Durrow Centre, Knocknagally, Durrow, Co. Laois. There will be return transport to and from the event from Limerick, Nenagh, Moneygall & Roscrea. The cost will be €80 with an additional €20 for return transport from all locations. The usual mix of activities and worship will be on offer.

For more information on any of our events or activities, please contact Edward (087) 2907553 or Oscar on (086) 2476327, Email: [udyc@limerick.anglican.org](mailto:udyc@limerick.anglican.org) or our UDYC Facebook page.

Until next month, Sophia, Mobile: 087 133 9996



Thanks to technology, replacing the worn-out hymn books didn't cost a penny

# Children's Ministry Network



## HARVEST NEWSLETTER

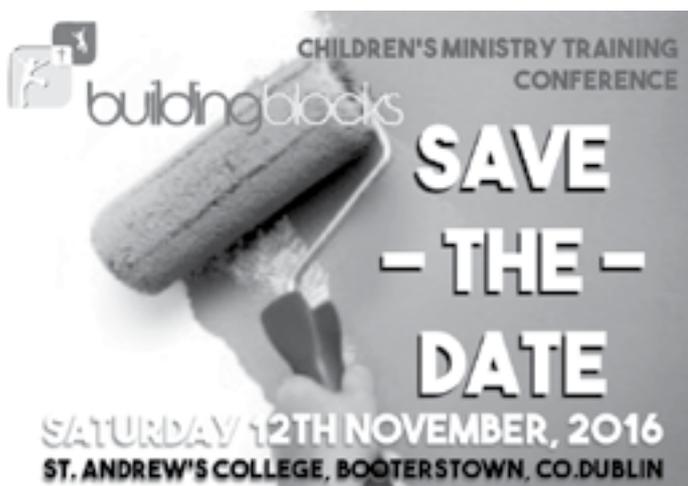
Seven pages await you... full of ideas collated from different Children's Ministry websites, blogs and resource books; along with some home grown tried and tested ideas, including all-age service ideas.

Do take a look and enjoy as you give thanks for all God has given.

See [www.cm.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.cm.ireland.anglican.org)

## BUILDING BLOCKS 2016

Key Note Speaker: Mina Muns. Mina is a former U.K. Primary Teacher. In her spare time she blogs about creative ways to do Children's Ministry. If you have ever come across [www.flamecreativekids.blogspot.ie](http://www.flamecreativekids.blogspot.ie) you will know what a super speaker Mina Muns will be! Booking is on line for now... on CMN page or [www.buildingblocks.ie](http://www.buildingblocks.ie). If you even think you might like to go. Get booking now. Experience the buzz and enjoy the stalls, workshops, top tips, giveaways, creative prayer ideas ... Save that date: Saturday 12th November 2016, at St Andrew's College, Booterstown, Dublin



# Table Tennis News

THE LAOIS TABLE TENNIS CLUB is open in Ballyfin Community Centre for Junior Table Tennis for children 7-17. Children with disabilities are welcome. Coaches will be present to help all players. Also academy sessions with Irish coach and professional players. The main aim of the Club is to encourage young people to try out the sport. Children from all areas welcome to come along to give it a try. Club night every Friday 7-9 pm.

Contact Jimmy Hayes 086 868 4693

JUNIOR TABLE TENNIS continues in Cloughjordan Hall on Tuesday nights from September 20 from 6-8 pm. Contact Des Larke 086 864 0998

The joint Ossory/Midland League and the Midlands Parishes Table Tennis League will start in mid-October. Contact John Chadwick 086 211 2985

# Limerick & Killaloe Guild of Diocesan Readers

At the invitation of Bishop Kenneth, after Evensong on 18th September in St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, the attending Diocesan Readers with Archdeacon Wayne Carney, Warden of Readers met together to discuss establishing a Guild of Diocesan Readers for the United Dioceses of Limerick & Killaloe.

It was unanimously agreed that the Guild should be established.

Audrey Clarke-Gordon agreed to serve as a liaison person with the Bishop for a 12 month period and will send the minutes of the meeting to all Diocesan Readers.

After discussion regarding the purpose of such a Guild and activities it might undertake, it was agreed that Audrey will liaise with the Bishop regarding the Guild launch. Suggestions were made that the event might include the following: worship, a talk by an invited speaker, a business meeting to plan future activities, and fellowship over a meal. The day of the week for this event was also discussed.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## St. Nicholas' National School, Adare

School re-opened on Wednesday 31st August when we welcomed Daniels, Henry, Lilah, Lauren, August, Katja, Rebecca, Ewen, Noah and Isobel to Junior Infants, Ilse to Senior Infants, Jack to 1st class, Andie to 2nd class and Ava and Oliver to 5th class. We were joined by Amelie and Ezra a week later. We hope that all new pupils will settle in well and will have many happy years here.

We also welcomed Emma O'Shea to the Infant classroom where she will teach this year and Mr. Micheál Ryan to our support teaching staff. Annemarie Yelverton has joined our staff as a part-time SNA.



Junior Infant pupils in St. Nicholas' N.S.

Thank you to Rev. Liz who welcomed us back to a new school year at a service in the church on September 15th.

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 14th September to introduce our Bookworm Club, Mata le Chéile and Jolly Phonics programme. Thank you to Mrs O'Shea and Mrs. Walker who gave the presentations.

We look forward to participating in the Harvest Thanksgiving service in St. Nicholas' Church on September 23rd when the children will sing a lively "Harvest Samba"

We have all been celebrating Roald Dahl's birth one hundred years ago this September with readings from some of his popular novels and writing about our favourite characters. It will surely give us some ideas for our annual Dress Up Day at the end of October.

Congratulations to some of our senior pupils who won prizes for their art work at the Limerick Show. Well done to David Canning who won 1st prize, Aoife Ruppin-Giltenane who won 2nd prize and Aaron Morrissey who took 3rd prize. We also had some Highly Commended prizes and the school won the overall prize. We were delighted to welcome Anne Gabbett and Eoin Silke to the school to present the prizes.



David's prizewinning picture

## St. Marys No. 2 National School, Nenagh

Tús mhí Mheán Fómhair - The Beginning of September  
Beannachtaí agus fáilte mór to our returning pupils. We are delighted to welcome you all back. Each September heralds a new and exciting adventure for a number of Junior Infants. We welcome Elisa, Sarah-Jane, Adam, Keeva, Clara and Hollie to St. Mary's. May you enjoy all the new experiences ahead of you, in the company of your new friends!

The school year kicked off with a number of activities to celebrate European Week of Sport 2016. Daily activities included Move it Monday, Try it Tuesday, Walk it Wednesday, Team work Thursday and finished with Friday's celebration of National Fitness Day. The children have walked their locality, completed a team 10K

challenge, explored new fitness activities and best of all, had fun through activity. Thanks are due to Sylvia Gee who inspires the children through our soccer coaching programme, and to all of our teachers who developed the activities of the week.



Ready for the Walk!

September 13th was a celebration of all things Roald Dahl. Poetry, stories and artwork, inspired by this beloved children's author, were enjoyed by all. Roald Dahl would have been one hundred years old on this day. Works such as The Twits, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach and George's Marvellous Medicine have been enjoyed for years now in our school, and they are an important part of our Literacy programme.

A hundred thousand welcomes to Reverend Rod Smyth, who is to be our new Rector in the Nenagh Union of Parishes. We look forward to working with Reverend Smyth in the future.



We ran 30k!

## Oxmantown National School, Birr

### NEW PUPILS

Welcome to Oxmantown Hugo, Jamie, Stuart, Isaac, Rachel, Charlotte, Ellie Alannah, Lena, Martyna and Victor, we wish them a happy, successful time in our school.

### HOMEWORK CLUB

We are very grateful to Emma Delahunt and to Sandra Williams for running the homework club last year, due to other commitments they are unable to continue. Cailin Keaveny and Alan Hoare will run our homework club for this school year.

### MCGILL CUP

Congratulations to Orey Higgins on winning the School's McGill Cup for academic performance, we wish Orey continued success as he embarks on the next phase of his education in Kilkenny College.

## PLOUGHING MATCH

The consequence of having the Ploughing Match in Tullamore brought a huge increase in the volume of traffic passing through Birr, the Board of Management of all schools were asked to begin school each day of the Ploughing Match at 11am .

## St Michael's National School, Limerick

We have an extra-big welcome this September in our school. As usual, we welcome our new Junior Infants, all sixteen of them from six different countries. We also welcome back Lorraine Moran from her maternity leave and delighted to hear that her little boy Thomas is thriving. To our delight, we welcome back Ciara Fleming who is teaching in our Senior Infants/1st Class room. Ciara was with us last year, covering Lorraine's maternity leave. She is currently covering Áine McMahon's maternity leave. Áine and Séamas had a second daughter, Méabh in August. Many congratulations to both families.

News filtered through at the end of last term that St Michael's NS will be getting a grant to cover a new classroom and a support room. For the past few years, as our numbers increased, we had to forfeit the use of our general purpose room. It has been occupied by two teachers, meaning that all PE activities must be in the yard. We are fortunate that Senior Classes have been able to avail of the use of the LPYMA Hall on O'Connell Street for Spikeball and Badminton, and Junior Classes have the use of St Michael's Hall.

This year we are working towards our Active Flag. The school is already involved in many different sporting activities throughout the school year. Being a city school, located beside a beautiful spacious park, we are lucky to get outdoors as often as weather permits. We look forward to reaching the different milestones necessary to acquire this flag.

While we were all on holidays, our new caretaker, Dennis Hayes, has been working assiduously painting steps, railings, gates, window sills and keeping the garden and yard in immaculate condition.

As always our Harvest service is October 16th and the school are busy preparing our contribution. Canon Marie came to visit and offer her help to include us in the service and to have a School Harvest Assembly the following morning, to include all other pupils who were unable to join us in St Michael's for the Sunday morning worship. Many of our pupils are committed to other churches in the city and have difficulty joining us for the Harvest Service.



*Junior Infants, St Michael's NS.*

## The Glebe National School, Aughrim

### A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

The Glebe N.S. reopened on September 1st 2016 with twenty one bright and eager pupils. We were delighted to welcome five new Junior Infants to the school. We are thinking of our sixth class pupil, Rachel Benadie, who left us in June and we wish her the very best in Secondary School. Our Junior Infants are settling in so well. It is a delight to watch their joy and enthusiasm. We were very fortunate to be able to reappoint Ms. Nicola Waters to the position of Part Time Temporary Resource Teacher in July. She will be with us now for another year.



*Junior Infant Pupils at the Glebe NS*

Unfortunately we had another very sad bereavement during the past school year. Our secretary, Carmel Murphy lost her husband in a tragic accident on September 11th 2015. We have offered her our deepest sympathy and are doing our best to support her during this difficult time. We remember John especially at this time of year, the first anniversary of his death.

### GARDENING

Despite the bad weather since returning to school the children have been out to the garden and have harvested the vegetables and fruit planted last Spring. Our potatoes and onions did very well but our carrots were somewhat small. We enjoyed making a mixed vegetable soup with our vegetables and it really tasted very good. Well done to all our budding gardeners and cooks!

### GREAT NEWS!

We are so delighted to tell you that Principal Lisa Fenton had a baby boy on the 16th March 2016. We congratulate both herself and husband Eoin on the birth of their beautiful son, Tom. Lisa is at present on maternity leave and Bernie Glennon continues as Acting Principal. Mrs. Orla Delaney is our wonderful substitute teacher for Ms. Fenton. We hope Lisa enjoys her time off school and we look forward to her return later in the year.

### GREEN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

We registered with Galway Co. Council for the Green School's Programme last March and we are already well under way with our project. We have formed our committee and regularly hold meetings to prepare our project work. We held a competition for a Green School's Slogan. We have started our three bin system in every room and have a lovely compost bin in the garden. We had a very successful Fundraiser; an Afternoon Tea Party/ Bring and Buy Sale in June. This event tied in nicely with our recycling efforts as there was a nice exchange of used goods and it was a very sociable occasion also. We are at present preparing our first Green School's Newsletter to relay information to our parents. We hope by this time next year to be flying our very own Green Flag! We will keep you posted.

## Villiers School

### OPEN DAY

We look forward to this year's Open Day which takes place on Saturday 8th October from 11am to early afternoon. Perspective parents and friends are given a formal presentation on arrival, followed by a guided tour of the school and its facilities.



### DERRAVOHER HOUSE

Derravoher House adjoining the school is now open for business and totally refurbished. Senior students are now using the building as a study hub during the day and for evening study. This adds a whole new dimension to the school's continued expansion and academic life.

### PRIZE DAY

Annual prize day was on Wednesday 28th September to acknowledge academic achievement and highlights of the school year.

### ANTIQUES FAIR

Again we welcome the Antiques Fair to Villiers for a second time on Sunday 23rd October. Building on last year's success, we look forward to visitors from the local and wider community to come visit and find that bargain of a lifetime. Proceeds again will go to assist Zest4Kidz in their efforts to help children in Uganda. We look forward to your support.

### TY FASHION SHOW

Our annual transition year fashion show takes place in the Radisson hotel on the Ennis Road, Limerick on Tuesday 25th October. We look forward to the students strutting their stuff on stage. Do come and support what is always a great night.

### News from the Villiers Sanctuary

Villiers is once again the hive of activity that makes it the incredible place that it is. This time of new beginnings is one that is always full of promise. There are new beginnings for all who left for college and further adventures and also for all of our new 1st form. Congratulations and best wishes to all.

Of course we are no sooner back and there is a milestone for our current 4th form as they received their junior certificate results, once again congratulations to all.

Of course as I think about beginnings I have also thought about how they also signify the importance of endings. Whether it's the end of a good film that you have really enjoyed, the end of a cup of tea or perhaps the end of relationship or indeed the passing of someone you care deeply for. These are things that we can all relate to. If we think about the feelings associated with endings, we tend to think about sadness, disappointment and perhaps a sense of deflation. However, endings can also be a good thing. Endings are times where we feel that something has changed and probably will never be the same again.

But looking back over what has passed can also give us a sense of evaluation. How was the last year for you? Was it a good year full of promise and excitement, or was it a difficult year that held many challenges? This start of a new school year is a wonderful opportunity to look back and ask what we could have done differently to make things better. We know that we can't remain in the past but instead we need to look to the future. We stand on the threshold of a new and exciting school year which holds such promise, opportunities and possibilities. We hold this year in the palm of our hands. Perhaps in a year's time we might look back on this year as our best year ever! I really hope and pray that for us all that it is.

Until next time,

Blessings and peace

Chaplain Jackie McNair

# 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](mailto:abbeydean2@gmail.com)

LUKE Samuel O'Donnell was baptised on 28th August at Killaloe. He wore a baptism gown handed down through the generations. We wish Karen and Patrick well in their new community here at Killaloe Cathedral with a new baby and a new home. It is always wonderful to have the grandparents and extended families at such an occasion visit the church travelling from far and wide. The one godparent, Catherine, managed to travel from Canada to be at the baptism



*Dean Gary holds up Luke to be welcomed*



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Ellie Shirley Manning was baptised in Castleconnell in All Saints Church on 3rd September. Our good wishes to the parents Mark Manning and Serena Hartigan. Ellie is connected to the Hartigan family at Castleconnell we therefore had a full church of family and friends. Serina being a sister to Beverley who got married just a few week earlier. So it was wonderful to have all together so soon at another family milestone.



*Jim Hartigan, Shirley Hartigan, Mark Manning, Serena Hartigan & Ellie Manning, Dorothy Manning and Donal Manning*

After many a year of the church being closed at Clonlara, it was indeed a celebration to have a wedding in the church. David Jeffreys and Sarah Harney were married at Kiltananlea Church on 10 September. It was amazing the transformation that happened at the church and the day was a great celebration. David and Sarah bought the old rectory opposite the church and spent 6 years renovating it and have since moved in. So the bride had to only walk across the road for the wedding ceremony. We wish David and Sarah many years of happiness in their marriage.



*David and Sarah*

It is time for Harvest services again in our churches. There being five churches and five Sundays in October there will be a Harvest service in each of the churches at 4.30 during October. Please know that you are welcome to attend.

2 October - Mountshannon  
 9 October - Killaloe Cathedral  
 16 October - Clonlara  
 23 October - Tuamgraney  
 30 October - Castleconnell

The Autumn series continues in our All Saints Church Castleconnell on Tuesday 18 October Van Kuijk Quartet and Tuesday 29 November the Vanbrugh Quartet - Irelands most distinguished String Quartet. It is also wonderful to have Liz Nolan of RTE Lyric FM introducing the music each evening. Online booking [www.limetreetheatre.ie](http://www.limetreetheatre.ie) or Box Office 061 774 774 or at the door. €15 and €10 concession. Concerts begin at 8pm.

## **Birr Group of Parishes**

*Birr, Lorrha, Lockeen, and Dorraha*

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@gmail.com](mailto:mapleire@gmail.com)

Parish Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes](http://www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes)

### **BIRR CHURCHES TOGETHER**

Birr Churches Together has a new Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/BirrChurchesTogether](http://www.facebook.com/BirrChurchesTogether). Be sure to check out our Parish Facebook page which can be found at: [www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes](http://www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes)

### **BIRR BICENTENARY EVENTS**

**Saturday, 1st October 7:30pm** - 'BirrPraise' - Contemporary Worship Service for all ages in Birr Church.

**Friday, 7th October 7:30pm** - Birr Harvest Service - Preacher: Canon Liz Beasley

**Saturday, 8th October** - 'MAD' Day (Multi-Activity Day) for primary school aged children, in Oxmantown School.

**Saturday, 5th November 5:00pm** - Launch of a Book on the History of the original St Brendan's Churchyard.

**Sunday, 6th November 4:00pm** - Birr Patronal Festival Eucharist. Preacher: The Most Reverend Richard Clarke, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland; followed by a Reception at Birr Castle.

**Sunday, 13th November 11:30am** - Special Remembrance Sunday Service

**Saturday, 10th December** - Performance of Handel's Messiah with the Guinness Choir and the Birr Choral Society.

### **CANON CECIL HYLAND**

We were delighted to host Canon Cecil Hyland in our Group of Parishes, who together with Archdeacon Gordon Linney, has been doing a Diocesan Review at the request of Bishop Kenneth. Canon Cecil was with us on the weekend of the 26th to the 28th of August, met with a number of parishioners from all four parishes, and preached in Lockeen and Birr on the Sunday morning.

### **PARISH DANCE**

Many thanks to Willie and Phyllis Wolfe, who organised our fundraising dance in Dooly's Hotel on Thursday, 8th September. It was an enjoyable evening, and over €1000 was raised for the church repair fund!

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Friday, the 9th of September, there was a Memorial Service held on the townland of Ballyeighan, south of Birr, at the site of a cross erected in memory of Captain Lancelot Studholme of the Leinster Regiment, who was killed at the Battle of the Somme exactly 100 years earlier. He died trying to rescue his wounded batman, who had been one of the workers on his estate. He is also commemorated by a plaque in St Brendan's Church in Birr. Members of Leinster Regiment Ireland will attend this year's Remembrance Sunday service in Birr at 11:30 am on the 13th of November.

#### COUNTRY MUSIC CONCERT

On Wednesday, 14th September, Michael J. Ramplin and Martin Dawson returned to Birr for a Country Music Concert, this time held in our church in Birr. Many thanks to all who supported it; as before, proceeds went to Birr Churches Together.

#### CONGRATULATIONS

Warmest congratulations to Roy and Claire Gill of Ross House on the birth of their daughter, Ruby, granddaughter to Anne and Henry.

#### BIRR CHURCHES TOGETHER

Birr Churches Together will be hosting a series of weekly discussions on Wednesday nights starting on the 19th of October. Speakers, times, and locations will be available soon.

#### MOTHERS' UNION

Birr Mothers' Union invites everyone interested to come to Oxmantown School at 8:00 pm on Thursday, 13th October for 'Fashion With a Difference and Wardrobe Revival Class'. Entry €5.

#### HARVEST SERVICES

Lorrha - Sunday, 2nd October at 8:00 pm. Preacher - The Revd John Godfrey.

Dorrha - Sunday, 9th October at 3:30 pm. Preacher - The Revd Terry Mitchell.

Our Parish Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes](http://www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes)  
Birr Churches Together: [www.facebook.com/BirrChurchesTogether](http://www.facebook.com/BirrChurchesTogether)



*Memorial Cross to Captain Lancelot Studholme*

## Roscrea Group of Parishes

*Roscrea, Bourney, Corbally and Kyle*

Rector: Canon Jane Galbraith

St. Cronan's Rectory, Rosemount, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, E53X466

Tel: 0505 21725 Mob: 087 382 5336

Email: [galbraithjane@gmail.com](mailto:galbraithjane@gmail.com)

#### DEATH

We offer deepest condolences on the death of Mervyn Tyndall to his wife Liz and sons David and Ivor.

#### HOLY BAPTISMS:

Emily Eva Franks. Emily is the baby daughter of Alison and Kenny Franks and the little sister of Thomas.

Molly Louisa Walsh. Molly is the daughter of Lynda and Liam Walsh and a little sister to Bill.

WELCOME, our new clerical family Revd. (Roderick) Rod Smyth and his wife Rosemary to Nenagh Union of Parishes. We offer prayerful good wishes to them as Revd. Rod takes up his ministry there.

#### HUMAN STORIES

When Roscrea Heritage Association approached us with a proposal that St.Cronan's might like to take part in National Heritage Week, little did we know that the glint in Adrian Hewson's eye meant big plans. In recognition of this year of centenaries ...The Easter Rising 1916 and World War 1, it was decided to hold an exhibition to commemorate the human stories surrounding the times. It began as a modest idea. It blossomed into something quite extraordinarily meaningful to everyone who attended. Proclamation memorabilia and WW1 memorabilia were enhanced by magnificent flower arrangement 'statements', announcing the human stories of children, medical people, armed forces, and others; from every nation involved.



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# A View from the Pew – Living & Loving in China

## by Salters Sterling



For the July/August issue of Newslink I shared thoughts on new ways of doing Ministry and for the September issue I shared perspectives on a new core to community. For this October Newslink I am going to reflect on new horizons on evangelism. For many, possibly most, indeed probably all of us in the Churches of the West, Evangelism is a word-based work of outreach, in which preaching is actively supported by medical care and education, and more recently food production in the case of our parishes' support

for the farm in Swaziland. Such a word-based understanding of Evangelism has been remarkably successful in bringing about a global knowledge of Jesus in the sense that there are very few nations, if any, who have not had some encounter with the Christian message. Whether or not that message has been understood and accepted is another matter that very much underlies the increasingly positive rejection of Christian understanding as a source of inspiration for the thinking and organisation of our Western society. Much time needs to be found for prayer and for reflection as we seek to understand how it is that Christians in the West find themselves a rapidly declining minority except in those areas where biblical fundamentalism holds sway.

### INVITATION TO CHINA

Meanwhile The View from the Pew discovers something of the life of the Church in China. We had been invited by the Chinese tenant of our house in Cork to travel with him to his home region in China

to meet his parents, relatives and friends. Entirely fortuitously I had been put in touch with Mark O'Neill, a journalist in Hong Kong who has recently written an account of his Grandfather's career of more than 40 years as an Irish Presbyterian Missionary in Moukden, Manchuria. Mark's book has been translated into Chinese and has been received with much gratitude by scholars of the history of China in the 20th century. I agreed to the request of Mark to allow him to put me in touch with that group of scholars.

### NO EVANGELISING

It would require altogether too much space in Newslink if I were to recount the entirety of the days spent in Shenyang, as Moukden is now called. A synopsis will suffice but before embarking on such I must record that as the arrangements were being made before I left Ireland I was asked most sensitively and most courteously to give an assurance that I would not engage in activity of an evangelical nature during my visit. I was happy to agree not to evangelise since the notion of evangelising without a word of the languages of China seemed to indicate that I wouldn't be able to even if I wanted.

### THE CHURCH IN CHINA

On that basis of no evangelising over three days of intense activity we met university professors in History and Social Theory, some retired and others currently exceedingly active and productive. We met Church Pastors, visited their Churches, met the staff of their Churches and shared worship through hymn singing. We met Theological Students in training for ordination. We visited their Theological College, one of seven such in China. Completed four years ago this one College has room for 500 students and currently 430 are enrolled. Its Chapel seats thousands and acts as a Parish Church. Its Campus includes a primary school, a secondary school, a health and fitness leisure centre, a restaurant serving both Chinese and Western Food, a prayer centre where prayer is made 24 hours

*Cont. on page 16*

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per day, 7 days per week, 52 weeks per year – and has been for the last 66 years – and a shop selling both sacred and secular items. We prayed with the group which sustains the prayer vigil and we had lunch with the Chaplain who also runs the restaurant. All Clergy must have another job in China.



*Northeast Theological Seminary, Shenyang (founded 1894)*



*24/7 Prayer Centre at Northeast Theological Seminary, Shenyang*

During these meetings and visits we were appraised of the statistics associated with Christianity in China. Most of the congregations number their members in thousands. The smallest provides 5 services each Sunday with approximately 1,800 at each service. Each worship service lasts 2 hours. Large congregations start worship on a Friday evening and continue through Saturday into Sunday evening. Church membership can be up to 40,000 in such a congregation. The number of Christians in China is currently some 80,000,000 and the numbers are doubling every ten years. In growth terms it outstrips the Chinese Communist Party. And yet evangelisation and evangelism are not permitted – are indeed illegal – being in conflict with the constitution of China. So what is happening? How do numbers double every decade when you cannot speak about what you believe?

#### LOVE

So exquisitely sensitive was the hospitality which we received that we didn't dare actually to put that question, but in fact we didn't need to. The answer was tangibly obvious. On the Theological College Campus where there was a degree of multilingualism we could read discretely placed reminders that the purpose of life and the quality of life in this place is about LOVE. And the LOVE is always in capital letters. In other words if you cannot talk about the Christian Faith you can nevertheless live it. On successive days we experienced that LOVING. On one of the days our transport arrangements went wrong. We needed to eat. A restaurant run by Christians provided a positive banquet at a moment's notice. How to get back to Shenyang? A Christian taxi-driver would take us. And he did, driving us for hours and telling us that he was delighted to do so because it was his wife who was the real Christian. The next day, having visited the Theological College we asked where the old

College, the one built by the Irish Missionaries, had been. No one in our party knew until our driver for that day said he did and took us there a long way out of his way. As he left us to our hotel that evening he gave both of us a huge hug as we got us out of the car. It was the sign and indeed the seal of LOVE.

We learned a profound lesson in China. It is how we live that counts. I record and share this lesson because I believe that increasingly it will be the case that LIVING and LOVING will be the crucial elements in the survival of the Christian Faith in our culture. And why so? Because in essence it is God's way. 'And the Word became flesh....'



*Faku Church from the outside – Faku is 77km north of Shenyang*



*Inside Faku Church*

## Priorities Fund open for applications

The Church of Ireland Priorities Fund is now open for applications. The fund provides resources for growth within the Church of Ireland and the wider community.

Contributions to the fund come directly from Church of Ireland parishes and since its establishment in 1980, over €17 million has been distributed in grants. Seven categories are currently supported by the fund:

- Ministry
- Retirement
- Education
- Community
- Areas of need
- Outreach initiatives; and
- Innovative ministry in a rural context.

Application forms for grants to parishes or organisations within the Church of Ireland are now available. Please note that the fund is not open to applications from individuals. Forms can be downloaded at [www.priorities.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.priorities.ireland.anglican.org) and are also available by contacting Mrs Sylvia Simpson, Priorities Fund Office, Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6, D06 CF47. Tel: 00 353 1 4125 607. Email: [priorities@ireland.anglican.org](mailto:priorities@ireland.anglican.org)

The closing date for the receipt of completed application forms is Monday, 31st October 2016.

# 250 Years of Ballingrane Methodist Church

## Report from Rev Ruth Watt

Saturday the 17th of September saw the 250th anniversary of our Ballingrane Methodist Church building, also known as the Embury & Heck Memorial Methodist Church.

Approximately 120 members of the congregation, friends, visiting Irish Palatine relatives from around the world, Methodists from around the country, and local clergy gathered for this celebration.

The service began with the old as we remembered the past with thankfulness and heard greetings from those influenced by past members of this Methodist fellowship, particularly those connected with the ministry of Philip Embury under the encouragement of his cousin Barbara Heck, the founder of American Methodism. It was at this point that a group from Knock Methodist Church in Belfast presented the Ballingrane congregation with a framed photograph of the 'Palatine Windows' which were gifted to The Methodist Church in Ireland by the United Methodist Church. These beautiful stained glass windows depict the story of Philip Embury and Barbara Heck and are now situated in Knock Methodist Church having originally been in Donegall Square Methodist Church, prior to its closure in 1994. The choir followed by singing a piece by Brian Hoare which reminded us that the roots of Methodist were immersed in our hymn singing. The piece, entitled 'Born in Song', reminded us that our hymn singing teaches us so much of what we know of God and provides a wonderful opportunity for us to praise Him for all He has done for us.



Back: Rev. Bill Mullally (President of the Methodist church in Ireland), Mr. Brian Baker (Society Steward), Ms. Lorna Shier (Circuit Steward), Rev. Ruth Watt (Minister of congregation) Front: Mr. Jim Lamont & Rev. Harold Good from Knock Methodist church in Belfast

Our guest preacher, Rev. Bill Mullally (President of the Methodist Church in Ireland), started by talking of us as witnesses of Christ and quoted from D.T. Niles, saying that Christian witness is like 'one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread'.

He challenged us to be witnesses of Christ in three different ways: witnesses in loving fellowship, witnesses in compassionate service, and witnesses in faithful bold proclamation. Our fellowship with each other is to be loving and caring and our service must be compassionate, caring about the people we serve. But that can't be the end of it, we have to faithfully and boldly proclaim what Jesus has done for us and through us. Rev. Bill spoke of how important this is in the world today where there are 60 million migrants and how our fellowship, our service and our proclamation can be of aid as we welcome a tiny percentage of these migrants into this country and into our communities.



The Circuit Choir

Our service finished with us looking forward. We prayed for the future of the church, collected money for the upkeep of our buildings, and the choir sang a Graham Kendrick song (You're calling us) which calls all of us, no matter our standing, to come together to fill God's house with praise.

Our afternoon celebration ended with plenty of food and conversation, which is something, as Methodists, we seem to be very good at doing!



Rev. Bill Mullally and Rev. Ruth Watt cut the Ballingrane 250th Birthday Cake

Although none of us will be around for the 500th celebration, some of our young people were talking about when they would plan our 300th anniversary! We pray that the witness of the people called Methodist will still be strong in the area in 50 years' time, but even more than that we pray that the witness of all Christians will consist of loving fellowship, compassionate service and faithful proclamation.

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# Rev Simon Lumby installed as Archdeacon of Limerick

Rev Simon Lumby, Rector of Killarney, has been installed as Archdeacon of Limerick, Ardfert, Aghadoe & Emly, in succession to Ven Sue Watterson following her retirement, and at the same time as Canon of the Prebends of Kilkeedy and Dysart in the joint Chapter of the diocesan cathedrals.

The ceremony was conducted in the course of a beautiful Choral Evensong in St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick on Sunday 18th September. Canon Marie Rowley-Brooke as Registrar read the Deed of Appointment and the Mandate. Rt Rev Kenneth Kearon, Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, conveyed the Mandate to Ven Simon Lumby, and Very Rev Gary Paulsen, Dean of Killaloe saw the new Canon to his Chapter stall, in the absence on sick leave of Very Rev Sandra Pragnell, Dean of Limerick. The choir led by Peter Barley sang Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Parry in D, and the Anthem 'Teach me, O Lord' by John Hilton, and as an organ postlude he played Mendelssohn's Allegro maestoso from Sonata No3 in A.

*Editor: the Newslink team wish Ven Simon Lumby every blessing in his new ministry.*



*Ven Simon Lumby, Archdeacon of Limerick with Rt Rev Kenneth Kearon, Bishop of Limerick & Killaloe, before the Installation*

## Clonmacnoise Summer School 2016 - Was Monastic Ireland a Gift of the Nile?

Egyptian and Coptic influence on the formation of Irish Celtic faith before, during and after Patrick's Roman mission is no secret to those knowledgeable about Celtic spirituality. But it is exciting when scholars attempt to pierce the veil of mystery around that fascinating world of the 'desert fathers', who brought a reflective, contemplative and holistic stamp to the Christian gospel in those early days of life on the Western fringes of Europe.

That Eastern link was well and truly explored at the annual Clonmacnois Summer School, held over the St Ciaran's Pattern Weekend in early September, with a record attendance of over 50 for the conference on Saturday 10th September.

Of course, the burgeoning interest in walking tours which open up our fascinating but undervalued archaeological and ecclesiastical sites is now a reality. Our own diocese is beginning to explore the possibilities of Spiritual Tourism as one means of revitalising our sense of place and as a means of enriching pilgrimage together.

Based at Ireland's pivotal monastic site on the Shannon, close to Athlone, the Summer School team led by Fred Carney, including retired Aughrim rector Canon Trevor Sullivan, is pioneering a shared ecumenical pilgrimage into our Celtic past.

Among contributions from scholarly 'heavyweights', Dr Peter Harbinson spoke on the high crosses of Clonmacnoise, and Dr Cathy Swift of Mary Immaculate College, Limerick introduced The Schools of the Druids, Brehons, Bards and Priests. Two 'laymen' also brought their passion for early Celtic church history to bear.

Alf Monaghan, with years of experience working as an advisor to Governments and agencies all over the Middle East, gave an illustrated talk entitled 'Monastic Ireland – A Gift of the Nile!' From a grounded Mediterranean, Eastern perspective he asks many questions and confounds some of the accepted theories about the history of early Christianity in Ireland. Irish discoveries such as the Faddan More Psalter – Egyptian papyrus in an ancient book of psalms found in a Tipperary bog – are clues to a more substantial Eastern influence on early Irish Christianity than has been acknowledged to date.

Another intriguing talk came from William Methven, a Northerner with a part-Presbyterian background who has published a historical novel charting the journey of an Irish monk from the Egyptian Desert to Ireland. Now on sale it is called The Hare's Vision.



*Summer School attendees enjoying the majestic setting of Clonmacnoise*



*At Clonmacnoise Summer School 2016 (l-r): Alf Monaghan, Fred Carney, William Methven, Dr Cathy Swift and Dr Peter Harbinson*

# Institution of Rev Rod Smyth to the Nenagh Union of Parishes as Rector of Nenagh

St Mary's Church, Nenagh was packed on Friday 16th September 2016 for the Institution of Rev Rod Smyth as Rector of the Nenagh Union. Nenagh parishioners were joined by clergy and diocesan readers from around the United Dioceses, along with visitors from the wider community, including Fr Des Hillary PP of Nenagh, Fr Willie Teehan PP of Templeberry and Fr Willie McCormack PP of Puckane & Carrig Roman Catholic parishes, and by many friends from the parish of St John's Malone, Belfast where he served his curacy, including its Rector Canon Robert Jones.

The Institution took place in the context of the Eucharist. The readings were those for Holy Cross Day, 14th September (Numbers 21:4-9, Philippians 2:6-11, John 3:13-17). Canon Robert Jones preached an excellent sermon, addressed very personally to Rod. The Cross is at the heart of priestly ministry, he told Rod:

*'Be with the broken, those who have failed, those who know shame. Be to them the minister of Christ Crucified, bearing his love and forgiveness by your presence, your prayer, your absolution, your blessing. And there you show what the whole Church should be... This is what the Cross of Christ calls us to be. Because of this, the ministry of the Christian priest cannot be one of condemnation... Here in Nenagh, build on the commitment to hospitality, welcome and inclusion... My prayer for you, for you Rod as Rector, for this parish of Nenagh, is that you will continue to live out the Cross of Christ.'*

At the Institution itself Archdeacon Wayne Carney presented Rev Rod to the Bishop Kenneth, Dean Gary Paulsen as Registrar read the Certificate of Nomination and with the six Church Wardens confirmed that the Declarations had been made, the Bishop delivered the Act of Installation to Rev Rod. The Church Wardens and others came forward to welcome the new Rector amid spontaneous applause. He was then led by the Bishop to the Font, the Prayer Desk, the Pulpit and the Altar, where members of the congregation read short passages of scripture, the Bishop charged him with his duties, and the Rector replied, 'With the help of the Lord, I will!'

The whole service was well organised and flowed seamlessly, thanks to the work so many had put into it. Afterwards the congregation repaired to St Mary's No 2 National School for refreshments. Speeches were made. Presentations took place: an historical

guidebook to Nenagh and its surroundings for Rod, and a bouquet of flowers for Rosemary his wife. And thanks were given, particularly to Rev Lucy Green who had been Priest-in-Charge of the parish during the 18 month vacancy, and those who had prepared the magnificent refreshments.

*Editor: The Newslink team welcome Rev Rod to the Diocese, and look forward to receiving his contributions to Newslink in due course.*



*The new Rector accepts the Bishop's charge at the font: 'See that those who are incorporated into the Church by baptism continue as living members, growing in the knowledge and love of God'(photo: Tom Doherty)*



*The New Rector with his wife Rosemary after the Institution*



*(Front row l-r) – Archdeacon Wayne Carney, Dean Gary Paulsen, Rev Edna Wakely, Canon Robert Jones, Rev Rod Smyth, Bishop Kenneth Kearon, Rev Dr Keith Scott, Rev Lucy Green, Fr Des Hillary, Rev Jane Galbraith (photo: Tom Doherty)*



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# St Brendan's Bicentenary

On Sunday November 6th, St. Brendan's will celebrate 200 years of continuous worship in the church on the Mall, started by Mr John Johnston, architect, in 1811 and completed in 1816 by the second Earl of Rosse and his brother, Thomas Clere Parsons Esq., who were asked by the Vestry "to have the building of the new church executed according to the original plans" after the architect died in 1812. As Salters Sterling pointed out in his recent lecture on the building of St Brendan's, this was a remarkable achievement for people with no formal training or qualifications, but then, as Salters also observed, Sir Laurence Parsons, as Postmaster General of Ireland was at the same time supervising the building of the General Post Office in Dublin, so the Vestry had reason to be confident that he and his brother could accomplish the task.



*St Brendan's Church, Birr celebrates its bicentenary this year*

The lecture also drew attention to Castle records that include invoices for work done on glazing, tiling, joinery, stone masonry and plasterwork. From these we know that the church was built and furnished by local craftsmen many of whose descendants are still living in Birr today.

Most of the domestic buildings and streetscapes that give Birr its strong Georgian character date from the time of the second Earl. The pivotal date seems to be 1807 when he succeeded to the title of Second Earl of Rosse of the Second Creation. It is in 1807 that he took up residence in Birr and it is in that year that his name first appears in the Vestry minutes. Within 4 years of the completion of the church, Birr would have a new Catholic church and a new

Methodist Chapel. So this bicentenary year of St. Brendan's has dimensions that embrace the other Christian churches in Birr and mark the beginning of a remarkable half century in the development of the town of Birr itself.

The patronal service will take place at 4.00pm on Sunday afternoon, November 6th. The Bishop of Killaloe, Rt. Revd. Dr. Kenneth Kearon will preside and the guest preacher will be the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, the Most Revd. Dr. Richard Clarke. Following the service, there will be a reception in Birr Castle.

## HEART AND SOUL – A NEW BOOK ON THE OLD BIRR GRAVEYARD

Another exciting event will take place on the weekend of the bicentenary service. We hope to be able to launch a new book, Heart and Soul - an illustrated guide to the memorials of St Brendan's Graveyard, Birr. The book is the result of a collaboration between Stephen Callaghan and Caimin O'Brien (joint authors) and between the Trench Trust and Offaly Co. Council (joint funders). It is hardback and sumptuously illustrated by Stephen's photographs. The text by Stephen and Caimin O'Brien will place the graveyard in the context of 1,000 years of history as a burial place for the town of Birr since the time of Brendan the Elder and Adomhnán of Birr. The Trust has enjoyed a fruitful collaboration with Offaly Heritage Officer, Amanda Pedlow, and we have also been helped and supported by the Birr Historical Society and the Offaly Historical Society. All being well, the book will be launched in St. Brendan's Church of Ireland Church at 5.00pm on Saturday 5th November.



*The ruins of the old St Brendan's Church, at the centre of the Old Birr Graveyard*

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## *Roscrea Cont. from pg. 14*

The overall theme of eventual reconciliation was most evident by the United Nations display and peace doves in the aisle. The explanatory details were provided by Adrian; outlining the historical facts but also and significantly, for almost for every nation ...Adrian found a local link with Roscrea, which included General Sir Charles Jones, President of The British Legion and grandson of a former rector. Jack Mooney V.C.; George Read and Fred Bennett former parishioners. These enhanced the already impressive WWI memorial furniture in St. Cronan's.

The exhibition was opened by Mr. Martin Quinn of The Tipperary Peace Convention, who gave a fascinating outline of the work of the organisation which promotes peace through music (one song in particular!) and discussion. US Secretary of State John Kerry will join a long list of notable recipients including the former South African President Nelson Mandela, Secretary General of the UN Ban Ki-moon, Nobel Laureate Malala Yousafzai and the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, the late Benazir Bhutto. Archbishop Robin

Eames was the recipient in 2006.

Musicians, flavoured 'Human Voices' through the proceedings. The specially made cannon (with two 'n's.) stood guard duty outside the church door. The comments in the visitor's book suggested, everyone, and from 10 different countries, were impressed by their visit. Many people need huge thanks both inside the parish group and outside it. Professional flower arrangers who gave of their time. Skilled enthusiasts spent many hours adorning their arrangements; all those who generously donated precious family memorabilia, those who came to play the organ or brought along their instruments to play, including voice; special mention must go to young Isobella Roe on her harp. The squad of helpers offering tea and eats, with thanks to St. Cronan's National School. The organisers of the cheese and wine reception, those who cared for the grounds and beautified even the gates. Those who marshalled the event, the hardworking committee who organised backroom preparations which kept the show on the road. Those who sponsored arrangements and those who contributed financially otherwise, made the occasion very



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special. Then there were the water babies who kept the flowers happy. The tidier uppers and blessed were they indeed, who were able to come promptly, to remove their creations. Thanks too, go to young Mr. Delahunt whose plums were only the sweetest, on Monday morning, for the removal squad.

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES**

St.Molua's Kyle: took place on Sunday Sept. 18th. at 2.30 p.m.  
St.Cronan's Roscrea: Sunday October 2nd. at 3.30 p.m.  
St.Burchin's Bourney: Sunday October 9th. at 3.30p.m.  
Christ Church Corbally: Sunday October 16th. at 4.00p.m.

Roscrea Youth Club swung back into action on Saturday Sept. 10th at 7.00p.m. till 9.00p.m. All secondary school ages are warmly invited. For more details contact Rosie Gee 0861973311.

The Boys Brigade 1ST. Roscrea bid a fond farewell to their Captain Hilda Mooney who has been leader for many years and was much appreciated for the variety of leadership skills she used and all the hard work she delivered. The baton has now been handed on to Alison Hayes. B.B.welcomes boys from Senior Infants up. The new season begins on Friday September 30th. in the Methodist Hall, 7.00-8.15 p.m. More information from Alison 086 6030225.

G.F.S. will begin the new season on Friday October 7th. from 7-8.30p.m. Girls of National School age are welcome to join in the fun. More information from Karen St.Leger 0872302791.

Gala Charity Concert "Show a Little Kindness" Roscrea on Sunday, November 13th. St. Cronan's Church Abbey St., Roscrea, at 7.00pm Nov 13th. Tickets €10.00. The concert is supported by and with performances by Roscrea Community Choir.

The beneficiaries will be The Simon Community (Midlands) and Plan International Ireland (bringing medical supplies and basic protection and support to children in conflict regions ). Two members of The Irish Naval Service: An tSeirbhís Caabhlaigh will speak of their work in the Mediterranean Sea.

**Nenagh Union of Parishes**

*Nenagh, Templederry, Ballymackey and Killodiernan*

Rector: Rev Rod Smyth

The Rectory, Church Rd, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.

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**FAREWELLS AND WELCOMES**

September has been quite a busy month in the Nenagh Union. At a united service, followed by a bring and share meal, we said our farewells to the Rev Lucy and thanked her for looking after our spiritual needs over the past 18 months whilst still working full time with the HSE. But as one door closes another opens and we extend a very warm welcome to our new Rector – Rev Rod – and his wife Rosemary, as they begin their time in Nenagh. A very well attended service, at which the preacher was Rod's Rector from St John's Malone Road, Belfast, Canon Charles Jones – was followed by refreshments in the Croft Hall. The Diocese of Killaloe has benefitted greatly over the years from the Parish of St John's – Bishop Edward Darling a previous Rector and Brendan Hathornthwaite a curate, prior to moving to this Diocese . See pg.19 for a report on the Institution.

We also bade farewell to Reggie Hodgins who died at the end of August and send our sincerest sympathies to his widow Joan and his sisters, Patsy and Rosie, and relatives.

And – we welcome into our world Luke Henry Mooney – infant son of Susan and Henry and grandson of Barbara and David Howard.

And six little people have begun their formal educational journey in our primary school – Elisa, Sarah-Jane, Adam, Keeva, Clara and Hollie. We wish them happy days. And happy days also to those who have travelled up the ladder to secondary school and those embarking onto third level education.



*Opening Night Liturgical Reception Back L to R. Fr.Liam Mt. St.Joseph, Revd.Shannon DeLaureal, Mr.Adrian Hewson, Mr.John Shanahan Tipperary Peace Convention, Mr.Leslie Evans*



*Mrs. Doreen Roe with her Human Stories 'Nursing' Display*

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## CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The go-ahead has been given to see about staging the Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's again this year and, whilst no firm commitments have been made it is hoped that it will take place in December – so please watch this space!

## DROMINEER LITERARY FESTIVAL

Part of the Dromineer Literary Festival programme (6 – 9 October) will be taking place in St Mary's. On Thursday, 6th October at 8 pm IMRAM Irish Language Literature Festival will present *Ide na Tine* – Tioscadal Joni Mitchell, Sweet Fire – The Joni Mitchell Project with Caitriona O'Leary & Band. And on Saturday, 8th October, also at 8 pm "Meet the Authors" with Anne Enright, Anthony Glavin and Aideen Henry, and chaired by Rick O'Shea, will be held. Marita Conlon McKenna will be talking on the Sunday afternoon, in Nenagh Castle, on her recently published historical novel "Rebel Sisters" – based on the lives of Muriel, Grace and Nellie Gifford – Muriel was married to Thomas McDonogh and Grace to Joseph Plunkett. Marita's daughter, Laura, is daughter-in-law to Jean Hodgins.

## HARVEST FESTIVALS

By the time this is published Killodiernan's Harvest Festival on 25th September will have taken place.

The Templederry Harvest Festival will take place at 7pm on Sunday 2nd October, and the Nenagh Harvest Festival at 11am on Sunday 16th October. Friends and neighbours will be very welcome to join us, as always.



*The School prepared a special welcome to Rev Rod*

## Cloughjordan & Borrisokane Group of Parishes

*Cloughjordan, Borrisokane, Borrisnafarney and Ballingarry.*

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Mob: 087 203 9333

Email: [terrym438@gmail.com](mailto:terrym438@gmail.com)

On behalf of Cloughjordan and Borrisokabe Group of Parishes we extend our condolences to the Larke and Baker families on the death of Francie Baker, who passed away peacefully on the 27th of August. The funeral service was held at the Embury Heck Methodist Church in Ballingarrane on the 29th August. The service was led by Rev Ruth Watt and Rev Tom Kingston with fitting tributes from the family. Francie was loved by all who knew her and will be dearly missed.

On a personal note I would like to extend my thanks to the doctors, nurses and admin staff at the Portiuncla Hospital in Ballinasloe. On a recent visit, my father was admitted to A&E, after contracting Acute Kidney Infection.

The level of service was of a very high standard, and after four days of treatment was discharged, fit enough to fly back to South Africa and return to work. Thank you again to the hospital for the care and concern that was shown.

History of Borrisokane Church of Ireland (adapted from a booklet written by Mr Norman Harding).

Prior to the 16th century the church was of Catholic ethos and after closing down during the Reformation was taken over by the Church of Ireland. The church is surrounded by a very old circular graveyard, with the earliest tombstone dated 1707. There are over a 100 tombstones with monuments of the Kennedy, O'Meara and Stoney families.

The present Borrisokane Church of Ireland was built in 1812 through a loan of 500 pounds from the Board of First Fruits. This was instituted by Anne, Queen of Great Britain in order to improve churches and glebe houses in Ireland.



*Borrisokane Church.*

In 1881 a rich-toned bell was presented as a gift to the church by Mr David Clarke. In 1904 a solid silver chalice was received from Mr Falkiner and in 1908 an oak carved eagle lectern was donated by St Mary Magdalene Church, St. Leonard on Sea in Hastings.

In 1955 a gate was ordered and erected with the Bishop's approval. The Garda Sergeant was asked to protect the gate from livestock on fair days. The gate still marks the entrance to the church today, with a lovely yew-lined path to the door.

During the 1990's the church and adjoining graveyard underwent extensive refurbishment with a number of different items and gifts donated by the congregation. The Church was rededicated on the 19th September 1993, conducted by Canon Atkinson with the special preacher the Right Rev Darling, Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe. Also present was Canon Madden, Fr Hogan and Rev Tom Kingston

The committed and dedicated congregation continue to maintain and look after the church, as it holds pride of place in the town, a visible reminder of the faith we uphold. May God continue to bless its ministry and mission in the years ahead.

## Shinrone Group of Parishes

*Shinrone, Aghancon, Kinnitty and Dunkerrin*

Rector: Canon Michael Johnston (On sick leave)

Parish Website: [shinrone.blogspot.ie](http://shinrone.blogspot.ie)

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd. Canon Ruth Gill

Kilgolán House, Kilcormac, Birr, Co. Offaly

Phone: 05791 35341; email: [ruth\\_gill40@outlook.ie](mailto:ruth_gill40@outlook.ie)

## PASTORAL

We still continue to remember those who are ill, at home, those in hospital, nursing home and those who care for them. We give thanks to God for those who are recovering after spending time in hospital and pray that all may find strength and peace in the knowledge of

God's loving care.

The ashes of the late Lionel Smith were buried in Shinrone churchyard on the 3rd September. He was a distant relative of the White Spinners and the Clarkes. The Revd. Janet and the Revd. Declan Smith conducted the ceremony.

#### VISIT FROM GERMANY

A group of German clergy arrived in Birr on the 30th August. Unfortunately, Anke Dittrich of the former link parish was unable to travel due to illness. Thankfully, the Revd. Janet and Archdeacon Carney looked after them at short notice.

#### HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Many thanks to Mr. David Frizelle who led the service and preached in Shinrone on Sunday, 11th September. There was a good attendance and David was given a warm welcome. By the time these notes appear, the other three services will have taken place.

#### WHIST DRIVES

Shinrone Whist Drives begin again on the 8th October and continue over the winter on the second Saturday of every month after.

#### TABLE TENNIS

The table tennis club has both junior and senior sections. The season will be starting up again shortly and anyone interested in joining is most welcome. Contact Eleanor Wakefield at 087 3555859

#### PARISH LUNCH

This will be held in Aghancon Community Hall on the 30th October at 1 p.m. This means that the church service will be held on Saturday evening, 29th at 8 p.m.

#### INSTITUTION

We warmly welcome the Revd. Rod Smyth and his wife Rosemary who have come from Northern Ireland to Nenagh. Over recent years there have been quite a few new arrivals to the Diocese, which is good. The Institution service was held on the 16th September and we pray that they and Nenagh Union will be richly blessed in this new phase of ministry.

## **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](http://www.churchofirelandclare.com)

KILNASOOLAGH'S (Newmarket-on-Fergus) intimate small congregation was left bereft at the passing of Mrs Jacqueline 'Jackie' Reid, aged 67, through cancer at Milford Hospice, Limerick.

Wife of Douglas and mother to Alexander and Nicholas and grandmother to Alex's baby daughter in Berkeley, California, she was a longstanding and vital member of the congregation known for her loyalty, kindness and sweetness of character. She was also, it should be said, a staunch and passionate church member who took a keen interest in Select Vestry matters.

Jackie was buried in her old family churchyard, a most striking setting in Douglas suburb of Cork City. Canon Bob Hanna presided at the Committal following a funeral service in Kilnasoolagh Church. Among the dignitaries and friends who paid their respects was retired Parish priest of Newmarket-on-Fergus, Canon Reuben Butler and the Rector of Douglas Union of Parishes, Cork, The Ven.

Adrian Wilkinson.

In opening words of tribute the rector spoke of the difficult time of suffering Jackie had undergone before a late diagnosis of cancer. Her last days were eased greatly with supportive and loving palliative care in Milford Hospice. Husband Douglas who was a tower of strength during her suffering, made his own passionate tribute.



*Mrs. Jacqueline Reid*

At Kilnasoolagh a Guard of Honour was formed by members of the Newmarket-on-Fergus Bridge Club, membership of which she shared with Evelyn.

Jackie's sister Evelyn Mayston was until comparatively recent times an active member of Douglas parish before moving to Newmarket to be nearer her younger sister. Evelyn is now an active and valued member of Newmarket church and the Parish Treasurer. We offer Evelyn along with Doug, Alex and Nick our deepest sympathy at their loss.

Jackie who came with Douglas from Cork as part of the Shannon Free Zone industrial set-up was known for her prowess at baking and gardening and love of flowers and animals around their secluded home at Ballycar, Newmarket. In lieu of flowers, sympathizers were encouraged to support Second Chance Animal Rescue.

#### ANNA McCURM

Mrs McCrum didn't quite make the 101, but memories of her glorious 100 birthday will do!

After nearly five years in Cahercalla Hospital we lost our outstanding parishioner and choir member of 90 years. Her eldest son Derek, speaking on behalf of his brothers Norman and Samuel gave an illustrative view of her active life shared in a love of music and travel and bridge with husband Leslie.

Nigel Bridge her longstanding family friend played organ and piano at a notable funeral service when an old choral friend, Anna Monaghan's presence in the choir stalls evoked memories of the years of mutual support Anna, Leslie and St Columba's enjoyed in the companionship of Ennis Cathedral Choir. Her choir companion in St Columba's, Mrs Kim Hutchinson led the recitation of the 23rd Psalm. Mr Vincent de Placido sang her out with Amazing Grace. The Rector led the Tributes and also presided at the Cremation in Mount Jerome Cemetery, Dublin the following day.

## COASTAL CALAMITY

The tragic loss of Coastal Rescue member and mother of two, Catriona Lucas, highlighted for all the bravery and sacrifice of our neighbours and rescue personnel. Among such and linked to the Kilkee, Co Clare incident was Ms Jenny Caraway, a mother linked in past years with the Church of Ireland community there. Jenny was one of two crew members rescued and who spent some time in hospital recovering. We wish her and her loved ones a strong recovery from the trauma.

*Editor: The Newslink Team extend their sympathy to Rev Bob Hanna and his family on the death of his mother Vera. The funeral service took place in St. McCartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen, followed by cremation in Belfast.*

# Clonfert Diocese

## Aughrim & Creagh Unions of Parishes

*Aughrim, Ballinasloe, Ahascragh, Ardahan, 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](http://www.aughrim.clonfert.anglican.org)

## SYMPATHIES

The community of the Glebe National School and parish extend their condolences to the family of Alo Quinn, our school bus driver, who died on August 31st. We also offer our deepest sympathies to the Franciscan community in Mountbellew on the tragic death of Brother Michael Burke in August.

## PARISH DIARY

Congratulations to Bertie and Phoebe Walshe, who celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary in August, and to Florence Fahy, who celebrated her 90th birthday that month. We wish every continued blessing to Robert and Jill Cooke, who celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary in September 1st, and to Violet Walshe and Phoebe Walshe who turned 96 and 90 respectively in September. We welcome back the staff and students of The Glebe National School, especially our five new Junior Infants: Joshua, Harry, Katie, Alan and Rebecca.



*Presentation to Robert & Jill Cooke on their ruby wedding anniversary*

On August 28th the rector took part in the official launch event in the East Galway Cancer Care Centre (Ballinasloe) of the new gym facilities and poly-tunnel gardening facilities there. Speaking of gardening, the parish continues to be indebted both to Galway

Rural Development and to the Aughrim community FAS scheme for their ongoing work in the rectory grounds. In September Galway Rural Development completed work on a new poly-tunnel in the rectory's walled garden. In the coming year, we hope to put 'The Rectory Crop' to good use in supporting the work of the parish, school and good causes locally. Claire Besnyoe continues to do so much to enrich the cultural and spiritual life of the area: on September 17th Ballyduggan House hosted a piano trio concert at which Tom Murphy (violin), Laura Barrett (cello) and Philip Short (piano) performed music by Mozart, Lalo and Rachmaninov; whilst the Oak House Reunion, on September 24th, will include talks from Father Gerard McCarthy SVD on 'Finding mercy and hope in the scriptures for today's troubled world.'

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING

We look forward to a full schedule of Harvest Thanksgiving services in the parish – details are as follows:

- Holy Trinity Aughrim: Sunday 25th September at 3.30pm. (Please note there will be no service of Morning Prayer in Aughrim that morning.)
- Woodlawn Church: Friday 30th September at 7.30pm. Guest preacher Canon Jane Galbraith.
- St John's Ballinasloe: Sunday 9th October at 10am. Guest preacher Reverend Michael Godfrey.
- St Matthew's Clontuskert (Glan): Sunday 9th October at 3.30pm. Guest preacher Reverend Michael Godfrey. (Please note there will be no service of Morning Prayer in Aughrim that morning.)
- Ardahan Church: Thursday 13th October, at 7.30pm. Guest preacher Father Joseph Roche, Parish Priest of Labane Parish.
- St Catherine's Ahascragh: Friday 21st October, at 7.30pm. Guest preacher Canon Ruth Gill.

The rector will be preaching at harvest thanksgiving services in Kinnity on September 23rd, Lorrha on October 2nd and Corbally on October 16th.



*Martin Collins, Ross Weilly, Pat Kelly & Jeremiah Fahy erecting the new rectory poly-tunnel*



## 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

### BAPTISM

We welcomed into the family of God Peter Finn Caffrey, son of Kathryn Ann Finney and Brian John Caffrey through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in St John the Baptist Church in Eyrecourt, Co. Galway on Sunday, August 28th. The godparents were Helen Finney, Violet Wall and John Wall. The organist was Mrs Isobel Finney, the grandmother of Peter. We welcome Peter into the life of the parish and congratulate warmly his parents and wider family on the occasion of such a joyous christening.

### MARRIAGE

Congratulations to Hazel Finney and her husband, Alex on their recent marriage and the blessing of their marriage in Gloster House, Brosna, Birr. This event will take place following the despatch of the notes.

### OUR HARVEST FESTIVALS

We look forward to our Harvest Festivals, Banagher will have taken place by the time these notes are printed. Nonetheless we thank Steven Ellis, Professor of History for his words on the Eve of his departure to take up a position as a Visiting Research Fellow at Merton College, Oxford University.

On Sunday October 2nd at 4pm, the Harvest in Portumna will bring Edward Hardy of our Parish to share experiences of his recent trip to Cambodia. We look forward to hearing how the Gospel of Christ is brought to the Khmer people after the horrors of that most brutal civil war that perpetrated by the fearsome Pol Pot and his henchman. With Christians numbering only 2% of the population the good news of Christ looks to extend its influence on an emerging nation where many seemingly get trapped in the gangsterism of drug and human trafficking.

On Sunday October 23rd at 7pm in Eyrecourt, we are hopeful of welcoming the recently retired Reverend David Butler of the First Parish Congregational Church of Gorham in Maine. David is also an award winning American playwright and along with his wife involved in the Portland theatre scene. The Congregational Church in Massachusetts and Maine is in its origins the church of the Pilgrims.

The Repairs to the Rectory are proceeding and we hope soon that it will be in excellent shape to welcome any potential clergyperson to the Parish Group.

Clonfert Cathedral. Sunday October 30th is the last 'fifth Sunday in the month' and the Sunday that we meet for a united Service in Clonfert Cathedral. But following practice we will pencil in Sunday January 1st 2017 as the Sunday for a CLONFERT CATHEDRAL SUNDAY.

### OUR SYMPATHIES

We sympathise with Mrs Finney, her family and the Ross family on the heart-breaking loss of young Tim Ross of Moate who was killed in a car accident as he was cycling to School. May he rest safe in the arms of Jesus.

### OUR CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Rev Simon Lumby, Rector of Killarney on his appointment and Installation as Archdeacon of Limerick, Adfert, Aghadoe, and Emlý.

### NEW RECTOR

Best of wishes to the new Rector of the Nenagh Union, Reverend Roderick Smyth and his wife on his appointment and his subsequent Institution on September 16th. May he and his wife have a very fruitful and happy ministry in North Tipperary and in the Diocese.

# Limerick Diocese

## Limerick City Parish

*St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Michael's and Abington Churches*

Dean: The Very Rev. Sandra Pragnell (on sick leave)

Curate Assistant: Rev Edna Wakely (on sick leave)

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Marie Rowley-Brooke

Mob: 085-147 4792 Email: canonmarie@me.com

CONGRATULATIONS: to Rev'd Edna on the birth on the 24th August of her first grandchild, a baby girl, Robyn Maria Catherine - born to Edna's daughter Jenny and her husband Darren. Congratulations to Jenny and Darren and may Robyn be a source of great joy to her family.

RETIREMENT: On Sunday 4th September at Choral Eucharist in St. Mary's a presentation was made to Mr. Andrew Ellerker, in recognition of his 27 years as Cathedral Caretaker. This was followed by a get-together in the Locke Bar. Andrew was very grateful for the beautiful silver ring with the Church of Ireland symbol on it.

ABINGTON CHURCH HARVEST FESTIVAL was held on Sunday, 11th September. We all enjoyed singing the lovely Harvest hymns, with organist Kokie Moore giving a great lead! And we all enjoyed the lovely refreshments afterwards as well! During the service a beautiful banner "The Angels of County Limerick" was dedicated - this had been made and gifted to Abington Church by Mary Keays Barry (an American descendant of the Keays Family). It comprises a copy of one of the stained glass windows in the church, hand painted on fabric, with appliquéd detail and with patchwork panels based on the pattern from the church floor tiles. The congregation would like to express their heartfelt thanks to Mary for her thoughtfulness and generosity to the Church. See front cover for an image of the banner.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH HARVEST takes place on Sunday 16th October at 10am. St Michael's School will have an opportunity for all the pupils to celebrate Harvest on Monday, 17th October.

WHIST DRIVES: Saturday 8th October - St. Michael's Church at 7.30pm with a Raffle. Saturday 22nd October Villiers Square @ 7.30pm - Entry €6 per person. Everyone very welcome.

### PEDAL POWER!

During Heritage Week, St Mary's Cathedral and St Michael's both took part in a church heritage trail around Limerick City. This special event was organized by the Limerick Pipe Organ Festival and Limerick Smarter Travel, with support from the Limerick Arts Office and Limerick City and County Council. Sincere thanks to Noreen Ellerker and Margaret Brickenden who spoke eloquently about the cathedral and St Michael's respectively and to Irina Dernova who played very suitable organ music on the St Michael's organ (Peter Barley played in the cathedral, and also incidentally in Christ Church

and on the organ in the chapel of Mary Immaculate College). It was a truly ecumenical tour! Thanks also to Susi Eckhardt for help with parish co-ordination. All went pleasingly and the organisers hope to run it again during Heritage Week next year.

**LEAVING CERTIFICATE: SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF BACH SET WORK**  
We are pleased to say that on Wednesday 19th October at 6.30pm in St Mary's Cathedral, the cathedral choir and An Cor will be joining forces to perform Bach's Cantata 78, which is one of the current set works for Leaving Certificate. This was last on the syllabus in 2013, and this performance follows the last few years when we have put on an annual performance of the Mozart set work. Particular thanks are due to the Bishop's Secretary, Anne Donegan for her great help in processing all the bookings for this popular annual event. Anne has taken on this role voluntarily since autumn 2014, and it has been of huge benefit. For instance, it is clear from those schools attending that this event is not just of benefit to secondary schools of all kinds in our own United Dioceses, but also schools from across the Mid-West and indeed increasingly on a national scale. It is a joy to see St Mary's Cathedral full of 5th and 6th years come mid-October!

#### WELCOME TO NEW CHORISTER

It was a pleasure to welcome a new chorister to St Mary's Cathedral Choir during the Choral Matins on Sunday 11th September. Aoife Hennessy, a student at Laurel Hill Secondary School, was admitted to the choir by Canon Marie. It was lovely that her parents were able to be there to see the short ceremony. We wish Aoife much happy singing into the future.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR:** is taking place in Villiers School on Saturday 12th of November. We would really welcome contributions of plants, cakes, jams, and preserves, books, bottles, unwanted gifts, bric-a-brac (no electrical). Please keep us in mind when "Spring cleaning" your house and/or garden. Tracey Lyttle 086-6486197 and Elizabeth Stanley 086-2687123 will take them off your hands anytime. We look forward to your support on the day.

## 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

#### HARVEST FESTIVALS

One of our Harvest Festivals will have happened by the time Newslink is published, and the second will be happening immediately thereafter, but here they all are:

Friday, 23 September, 7.00pm – In Adare with St. Nicholas National

School, followed by refreshments and an auction of the produce and plants offered at the Festival. The preacher will be the Rev. Ruth Watt, Minister of the Adare and Ballingrane Methodist Circuit. The proceeds of the auction go to the Samaritans.

Sunday, 2 October, 10.30am – In Kilpeacon, a joint service of the Adare, Croom, and Kilpeacon parishes. Students in the 6th class of Crecora National School will be singing in the service.

Sunday, 23 October, 3.00pm – In Kilmallock. The preacher will be Canon Cecil Hyland, one of our diocesan reviewers.



*Philip & Barbara Bingham with their Godspeed Cake*

#### GODSPEED

On Wednesday evening, 31 August, our Group of parishes said thank you and Godspeed to Barbara and Philip Bingham, who are retiring to Portugal. Barbara has been a Parish Reader and then a Diocesan Reader, first in Limerick City Parish and then in our Group. For the past several years, she has been assigned to Croom Church, though she also served on a regular basis in the other parishes in our Group.

On that Wednesday evening, we held a party for the Bingham family at the Croom Civic Centre, with a cake and refreshments. People

40 THOMAS ST  
LIMERICK

TEL: 061 - 414967  
FAX: 061 - 415365

*Thompson Undertakers*  
*Limerick*

came from all the parishes and also from Limerick. It was a grand and enjoyable evening for all. We sang hymns by Charles Wesley (Barbara's favourite) and gave the Bingham's a gift voucher to help them buy goods for their new home.

Rector Liz Beasley pointed out in her brief words that we were saying "Godspeed" to the Bingham's. We will no doubt see them again, as they have family and a home here. But this word means "May God cause you to succeed" and includes a wish that someone's actions will be positive for them, especially when it involves an element of adventure and daring. We felt moving to another country where they speak another language qualifies as adventurous!

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We celebrate with those who recently celebrated birthdays: Doreen Shine and Frank Hales, who just celebrated their 90th; Patsy Alfred; and a Happy 21st to Phove Gavin. Congratulations to all! (And apologies to any who may have celebrated a birthday and we didn't know!)

#### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to the husband and family of Elizabeth Morrow, née Bennett, whose funeral was held at St. Nicholas, Adare, on 6 September. Although she had lived in England for many years, she was originally from Adare and had attended St. Nicholas Church and School. She was living in Caherdavin when she died.

#### WORK AT THE RECTORY

Saturday, 10 September, was a great day at the Rectory, as several volunteers came to dig out an old walkway in the orchard and then line it with plastic and fill it with gravel. Pictures can be found on the website, at: [www.adarekilmallock.org/blog/](http://www.adarekilmallock.org/blog/). Many thanks from a grateful Rector and her husband!

## 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](mailto:rathkeale@limerick.anglican.org)

September is supposed to be busy and it has been, it's just all meetings and interviews and getting things going again. Summer time is time for the grass to grow and we remember with deep appreciation all those who work so hard to maintain our graveyards. Community groups look after both Askeaton and Nantenan and our deepest thanks go to them and to those who care for Tarbert, Rathkeale and Castletown.

Thanks too to all the parishioners who gave generously to Hannah Scott's (Formerly of Askeaton parish) sponsored walk in aid of Central London Samaritans. Hannah tackled the Thames Path Challenge starting out at Putney Bridge at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday 10th September and walked the Thames tow path until she arrived at Mill Meadows in Henley some 27 hours and 100 km later.



*Hannah at the finish of the Towpath Challenge*

We have had some bereavements in our community and our prayers go to the family of Mervyn Tyndall from Roscrea, particularly his brother-in-law, Ralph Drew a member of Askeaton parish.

Belated congratulations to Damian and Amy Shorten, who married in Sligo. Damian was a reader in our group of parishes and served as Church Warden for a number of years.



*Signing the Register - Damian and Amy Shorten with Canon Ronnie Bourke, and Canon Patrick Bamber*

Congratulations also to George and Susan Shorten who celebrate the arrival of a new grandson, James, son of Valerie and Sean October is harvest season and the harvest service for our group will take place in Rathkeale on Friday October 7th at 8:00 p.m. Everyone welcome.

October is a 5 Sunday month. The joint 5th Sunday service will be at Castletown Church, Kilcornan at 11:00 a.m.

# Ardfert Diocese

## Tralee & Dingle Unions of Parishes

*Tralee, Ballymacelligott, Ballyseedy, Dingle, Kilgobbin and Killiney*

Vacant

Email: [tralee@ireland.anglican.org](mailto:tralee@ireland.anglican.org)

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Phyllis Jones,  
The Rectory, Camp, Co. Kerry.

Tel: 066 713 0767 Mob: 085 855 8594

Email: [phyllisjones@eircom.net](mailto:phyllisjones@eircom.net)

*2nd October*

*Ballyseedy 9.45 am Harvest Thanksgiving*

*Tralee 10.45 am Holy Communion*

*Ballymac Please join Ballyseedy please for Harvest*

*Kilgobbin 10.00 am Morning Prayer*

*Dingle 12 noon Morning Prayer*

*9th October*

*Ballyseedy 9.45 am Morning Prayer*

*Tralee 10.45 am Morning Prayer*

*Ballymac 12 noon Morning Prayer*

*Kilgobbin 10.00 am Holy Communion*

*Dingle 12 noon Holy Communion*

16th October  
Ballyseedy 9.45 am Morning Prayer  
Tralee 10.45 am Holy Communion  
Ballymac 12 noon Holy Communion  
Kilgobbin 10.00 am Morning Prayer  
Dingle 12 noon Morning Prayer

23rd October  
Tralee 10.45 am Morning Prayer  
Ballymac 12 noon Morning Prayer  
Kilgobbin 10.00 am Holy Communion  
Dingle 12.00 noon Morning Prayer

30th October  
Ballyseedy 9.45 am Holy Communion  
Tralee 10.45 am Holy Communion  
Kilgobbin 10.00 am Morning Prayer  
Dingle 12 noon Morning Prayer

At the time of writing we are preparing for our Harvest Thanksgiving services in the various churches. It's a wonderful time when our churches are beautifully decorated, to sing those lovely harvest hymns and to give thanks for our many blessings.

ST. BRENDAN'S CHURCH, KILLINEY. Every Sunday during July and August, there was a service of Evening Prayer. The services have been well attended and at the last service, there was a sense of sadness that it would be the last service this year. So, on Tuesday 1st November at 7.00pm, there will be a special service to remember our dearly departed loved ones. All are warmly invited.

#### A VISIT FROM MEMBERS OF THE PALATINE ASSOCIATION

On Sunday 11th September we welcomed a group of Palatine visitors from Rathkeale, with a number of them from as far as New Zealand, Australia, Canada, USA and Europe. They were warmly welcomed with refreshments in Teach an tSolais and then joined members of Ballymacelligott Church for Holy Communion. After the service there was an opportunity to meet a number of people who share Palatine roots.

There will be a talk in the Tralee Library on Tuesday 11th October at 7.30 to 8.30pm entitled 'The Palatines - the Plain, Serious, Artless People' by Padraig O Conchubhair. This would be of interest to many of our Parish members with a Palatine history.

THE HEALER PRAYER GROUP meets on the first Tuesday of each month in Teach an tSolais at 8.00pm. All are welcome.

#### 1ST TRALEE COMPANY OF THE BOY'S BRIGADE

We will be starting up on October 7th with a registration taking place on September 28th. The Boys Brigade is for boys and girls aged from 5 to 12 (for insurance reasons children must be 5 to register) and we run every Friday from 7.20 to 8.30 We look forward to seeing our existing members return and hopefully some new members also".

#### A PRAYER DURING THE TIME OF VACANCY

Eternal God, loving Father, you have taught us through your Son how to care for all your people; be present with us in these months of change. Guide our decisions and help us to know your will, that this may be a time of discovery and growth. Teach us to value each other's gifts in ministry, to find new ways of reaching out to our neighbours, that in your good time, we may welcome our new Rector with confidence and joy for the glory of your name and the building up of your kingdom. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Killarney and Aghadoe Union of Parishes

*Killarney, Aghadoe and Muckross*

Rector Ven Simon J. Lumby, Archdeacon of Limerick

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

Tel: 064 66 31832 Mob: 086-8703997

Email: [killarney@ardfert.anglican.org](mailto:killarney@ardfert.anglican.org)

#### ARCHDEACON SIMON:

On Sunday September 18th many parishioners were delighted to attend the installation of Rev. Simon to the post of Archdeacon in St Mary' Cathedral, Limerick. On behalf of those who couldn't make it, for various reasons, can I wish Simon the very best from all of us at St Mary's and may he be guided well in his forthcoming work.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL & HARVEST:

You don't need to be a weather watcher or a calendar guru to figure out when Autumn has come; it just takes the announcement at this time of year that Sunday School is recommencing. Of course, being from a fairly rural part of the Diocese, we are also nudged by radio advertisements for "The Ploughing". Whereas we are all delighted to decorate our churches for the Harvest Service, the ploughing championship – held this year in Screggan, near Tullamore – is a special day out for most Church of Ireland members.

It, like our local Services, is a celebration of God's annual gift to us when the major work of the farming year is over and the crops are brought in. The ploughing championship is an event where you see somebody, or a couple, walking towards you and you get a sense of panic when you realise they are making straight for you and are about to engage.....but you haven't a clue from Adam who they are. Within seconds they explain that they recognise you from the Synod, or the Morning Service they attended at your parish church when they were on holiday during the Summer, and then you really say hello properly because the blank spot has been banished. Perhaps it's just because we get so many visitors to our Killarney church during the year, but I find that each year I see groups of Col people gathering together between the stalls discussing the new Rector, or even the new Bishop, while the throngs of people mill about them.

This makes the ploughing special, but I often wonder why is it that we have few if any of our own organised events where our "ordinary" membership get to meet? Maybe this is something we should think about addressing?

#### AUTUMN:

For a season that has so many fine poems written about it – think of John Keats' Ode To Autumn – "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" – it is surprising that Autumn is mentioned only once in the Bible; and that mention is not exactly inspiring. In Jude: 1.12 we read a warning about false prophets that... They are...Autumn trees without fruit. But despite the lack of reference in the Bible, this year's Autumn is a staggering testimony to the benevolence of God: apple trees are almost at breaking point with the weight of fruit, blackberries will fill every jam jar available and anybody who grows tomatoes will know the bumper crop that fills their green houses.

The point I'm trying to make here – albeit very laboriously – is that anybody who can get out and walk in the fields or in the countryside at this time of year should take the opportunity because God doesn't just appear in the Bible; He is everywhere and this is the time of year to see His gifts to us. Walk and be joyous because we have been chosen and we can see the proof everywhere at this time of the year.

## 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](mailto:stephens.j@temmler.eu) or [stiofain.s@gmail.com](mailto: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

### BAPTISM

Adam John Joseph Stephens was welcomed into the family of the Church at his Baptism in St Michaels, Killorglin on the 18th of September. Adam is the son of Robert and Martina Stephens who now live in Co Derry. Adam is a little brother to Kelly and Amy.



*At the baptism of Adam John Joseph Stephens*

### VISITORS

We welcomed Edward Willis and members of his family to the morning service in Killorglin on the 18th September. The Willis family live in Lombardy, Ontario in Canada where they run a transport business. He is the son of Charlotte Bourke of Dungeel whose family left Ireland and settled in Canada in the early 1900's.

### CONGRATULATIONS:

To Archdeacon Simon Lumby who was installed as Archdeacon of Limerick, Ardfert and Aghadoe on Sunday the 18th September in St Mary's Cathedral.

### ALL IRELAND ROWING MEDALS

Congratulations to Katie Boyle who rows with the Callinafercy Rowing Club, She won two bronze medals (Under 14 and Under 16) at the recent All Ireland rowing competition which was held in Donegal. We also have many other rowers in the parish, many of them doing well at other competitions in the county over the summer, Well done to you all.

### RECTORY:

The Select Vestry has decided to pursue the renovation of the Rectory in Milltown, It is hoped that some of this project will be done by voluntary labour. We have many skilled crafts people in the parish and this will be an opportunity to be part of the restoration of this historic building. This project will begin once the necessary Diocesan and RB approvals have been given.

### HISTORICAL EVENING:

On the 5th of November the Killorglin Historical and Folklore Society have very kindly offered to organise a symposium and exhibition to mark the 200th anniversary of the application by Church of Ireland parishes in mid Kerry to apply for finance from the Board of First Fruits to build Rectories and Churches in Mid Kerry, It is also the 20th Anniversary of the blessing of the site in Killorglin

for the new church and they also suggest that they will facilitate an exhibition of parish life over the last 100 years or so,

So we are looking for the following:

Wedding Pictures, christening pictures, confirmation pictures pictures of the churches, pictures of any events held in the parish pictures of school events, memorabilia of any sort.

The evening will begin at 7pm when the exhibition will be launched. This will be followed by a talk given by Conor Joy on the following topic: 'Conflicting voices from the Kingdom, Kerry Protestants and the Irish Revolution'

### SYMPATHY:

To Sean Tracey on the death of his father Jack who died recently in Dublin.

### DATES AHEAD:

9th October Harvest Thanksgiving Killorglin @ 11am

22nd October Sale of work In the CYMS @ 1pm

5th November, Historical evening in St Michaels Killorglin @ 7pm

## 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](mailto:michael.cavanagh@eircom.net)

Instead of the Mothers' Union annual outing being restricted to members, this year the invitation was extended to the whole church. Head gardener James O'Shea took us on a guided tour of the gardens at Derrynane House; a picnic lunch on what turned out to be the warmest September day in living memory, was then followed by an introduction to the Flora and Fauna of wild Derrynane by the artist, ecologist and broadcaster Vincent Hyland. It wouldn't be good enough simply to say his presentation was interesting – it was better than that by streets. Suffice it to say we're going again in the Spring.

It would have been safe to go down to the woods without a disguise on the 12th of September, 'cos all the Teddy Bears were at St. Patrick's for the Annual Teddy Bear Service – and the TBP that followed. Even though the weather was stormy, that didn't put anyone off. It's the occasion in the Church Year when we have the chance to bring Edward Bear (or Mike the Monkey, or Salome the Snake, or whoever) out of the loft or cupboard where he or she has been stored away and remember those times when you felt that no-one else in the whole world was prepared to forgive you and love you whatever you'd done. Even if it has been a long, long time since you thought you needed anyone else, Ted is always waiting with arms wide open to welcome you home, give you a hug and hold you close while you cry yourself to sleep. Now where have I heard that story before???



*At the 2016 Teddy Bear Service*

# Methodist News

## Adare & Ballingrane Methodist Circuit

Minister: Rev Ruth Watt

Methodist Manse, Rathkeale Road, Adare, Co. Limerick.

Tel: 061 396 236 Email: watt\_ruth@yahoo.ie

See pg.17 for a report for Ballingrane's 250th celebration

As for all churches a new minister is often time to take stock, to look afresh at our present mission and worship as a congregation and circuit, to look forward and reflect on where God is leading us, and to plan how we can follow Him into the future. In October (Friday, 14th @ 8pm) we are gathering as a circuit to pray, talk, dream and plan for the future of our participation in God's work in our lives as individuals and as a circuit. Please pray for and with and us as we seek God's face in this.

This month we also begin a Bible Study series on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew. As we study what Jesus taught His disciples almost 2000 years ago we seek to see what God is teaching us today and how He will be challenging our lives, our behaviours, and our witness.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Our circuit harvest celebrations continue in Ballingrane on Sunday the 9th of October with a united family service in the morning @ 11am. On Monday the 10th of October we celebrate with our Harvest Supper and Auction after our service of thanksgiving at which the new minister, Rev. Ruth Watt, will be speaking.

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER: All with Rev. Ruth Watt

2nd Oct	Adare 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion Ballingrane 11.45 a.m. Holy Communion
9th Oct	Ballingrane Harvest Celebration, United circuit service in Ballingrane 11:00 a.m.
10th Oct	Harvest Supper Celebration in Ballingrane @ 8:00pm
16th Oct	Adare 10.15 a.m. Ballingrane 11.45 a.m.
23rd Oct	Adare 10.15 a.m. Ballingrane 11.45 a.m. World Development & Relief Sunday
30th Oct	Adare 10.15 a.m. Ballingrane 11.45 a.m.

## 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

*Knitters 4 Life - Come join us at CB1 every Monday between 11am - 2pm for a crafty crochet and knitting gathering. Learn to knit and/or crochet or even to just hang out to share your projects and skill. Located on O'Connell St. in Limerick City Centre. Enjoy art, coffee/tea, and friendship!*

That's the invitation from Kim, Sara and Mary! So if you feel like reviving a long forgotten art or starting something new or coming along to help others untangle or pick up stitches along the way or if you just like a good chat it's a date in your diary! You'd be most welcome.

CB1 held its third Open Exhibition this month. An idea of Anna-Victoria's, the Open Exhibitions invite artists in the Limerick community to submit up to three works of art to be hung free of charge on the gallery walls. This time around, the gallery received nearly 70 pieces and the variety of work was great: pencil drawings, oil paintings, ceramic vases and even fridge magnets! Patrick hopes to hold three more Open Exhibitions in 2017 and to spread the word throughout Limerick that anyone who is creative and likes to make art is welcome to bring their work to the CB1 Gallery and show the public what they can do. It really generates a great feeling in the gallery as people get to take real pleasure in each other's skill and imagination. We even caught renowned Limerick artist John Shinnors in having a browse!

Christ Church Council enjoyed a visit from Rev Dr Heather Morris, Home Mission Secretary. As church we have to keep looking at and reflecting on what we're doing and why we're doing it. Discerning mission in today's world is something of a challenge. Over the years Christ Church has been on quite a journey from a building made over in the late 1930's to uniting denominations in the 70's to now, where Central Buildings is taking on a life of its own and our congregation is so diverse; we have to try and understand what God is doing and how we join in with that. It requires curiosity and a fair bit of flexibility. There are lots more conversations to come and I think we're all looking forward to it!

Sean has got our youth group underway again, so if you're if you're between 12 and 18 and would like to come along and meet them they're in the church hall at 7.30pm on Mondays. There's usually a bit of impromptu music in the church before the group starts - again you'd be most 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

Email: karen.spence@irishmethodist.org

Web site: www.irishmethodist.org/kerry

Lay Pastoral Assistant: Suzie Gallagher

Kenmare Lay Pastoral Team: Ed and Jean Riechie

Tel: 064 6620580

The Lighthouse MILLSTREET

Sunday service 6.30pm

Bible Study Tuesday 7.30pm

Drop in Thursday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Killarney, Kenmare and Millstreet Methodist Churches

KILLARNEY

Sunday services 9am and 11am

Prayer meetings Tuesday and Thursday 8am - 9am

Soul Food Bible Study Friday 11am

Drop-in lunch 12pm

Parent and Toddler (term time) Tuesday 10am

The Giving Space monthly as arranged on Saturdays

THE GATEWAY KENMARE

Sunday Service 11am (preceded by tea/coffee)

Prayer Meeting Wednesday 9.15am

Bible study Wednesday 10am

Drop in for coffee Wednesday 11am

Youth Club second and fourth Saturday 7pm - 8.30pm

Contact Rev Karen Spence for further information.

September means that Sunday school is back in Killarney and Drishane Castle, Millstreet after the summer break. The Lighthouse congregation in Millstreet have developed close links with Drishane Castle, an Asylum seeker centre, and have the privilege of going there every Sunday afternoon to lead a Sunday school. Giving Space also returns to its monthly slot in Killarney as we continue to explore generosity in a variety of contexts. Soul Food is the new name for the Friday morning bible study in Killarney. Each week we focus on a passage of scripture, which is quite often what has been preached the previous Sunday, and then we share lunch together.

Jayden, Lyndon and Aimere Mujeni were welcomed into the church in Killarney at the sacrament of baptism.

The Wednesday mornings in Kenmare continue to prove to be very worthwhile as we gather for prayer (Jeremiah 29: 7), bible study and refreshments.

We thank God for every opportunity he gives us to live as his disciples in these places

## 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 Sunday's

10:15am – Cloughjordan on 3rd, 4th, & 5th Sunday's

11:45am – Roscrea

7:00pm – Shinrone

This past August my family and I did something we had never done before . . . gathering dry turf from the bog! Our American family, who has lived most of their lives in the suburbs, has now participated in an ancient rural Irish custom . . . and we really enjoyed it! But please don't tell my circuit . . . they might ask me, as their minister, to do this often. And I'm not sure I'm up for hard labour on such a regular basis!



*Hard work on the bog*

In all honesty, we could not have asked for a better day in the bog. The sun was shining; skies were blue; and we had a crew of at least 20 people bringing in the turf from five plots. There is something to be said about doing a large difficult task with others. There was great craic and a sense of satisfaction in accomplishing the work together. There's nothing like getting the job done and doing it well



*Tired but happy - the Meitheal takes a break from saving the turf*

In addition, we were bringing in the turf for a very good cause . . . we plan to sell the turf to raise much needed funds for our circuit. Some might say it was the circuit that brought us together that day. I would say it was the Spirit of God empowering us to work hard together to care and watch over something that is very important to us . . . our faith, the churches' ministries, our continued witness of Christ, and our places of worship. Will you please join me in supporting the North Tipperary Circuit of the Methodist Church in Ireland? If you or someone you know would like turf this Autumn, please ring Lorraine Cahalan at 087 2971365. Together, may we make a difference for God's heavenly kingdom in North Tipperary.

Faithfully,  
~ Rev. Shannon

Our final Harvest service will be on Sunday 2nd October at 7:30pm in Cloughjordan Methodist with Rev. Dr. Harold Good preaching. The Cloughjordan Ecumenical Community Choir will offer seasonal music. Be sure not to miss this evening celebration! All are welcome.

ST. CRONAN'S YOUTH CLUB – This youth club will meet on Saturday 22nd October for a night of spooky fun at the Nightmare Realm in Dublin. Must be 13+ years of age to attend. Please contact Rosie Gee at 086 1973311 for more details.

ST. CRONAN'S BOYS' BRIGADE – This company will meet in Roscrea's Methodist Church Hall on Fridays 14th October and 28th October from 7-8:15pm.

MWI – CLOUGHJORDAN/BORRISOKANE – Our Annual General Meeting is set for Tuesday 18th October at 8pm in Borrisokane Church.

MWI – ROSCREA – All ladies in the community are invited to the annual Pink Party on Tuesday 11th October at 8pm in Roscrea Methodist Church Hall. Donations are in aid of Marie Keating Breast Cancer Foundation. Fun and games along with party food. All women are welcome! Don't forget to wear pink!

Roscrea Makes Music to "Show a Little Kindness" – There will be a Gala Charity Concert on Sunday 13th November at 7pm in St. Cronan's Church, Abbey St which will benefit The Simon Community for their work with the homeless and Plan International Ireland, a humanitarian not-for-profit organisation. Guest artists include Simon Casey, successful singer from "You're a Star," and Orla Fallon, singer and harpist from Celtic Women. Concert organisers, the Roscrea Community Choir, will complete the program. Mark your calendars now. Tickets will go on sale soon.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in John chapter 2 verses 1 to 10

Jesus, his mother, and his disciples were guests at a family wedding in Cana. The bridegroom was responsible for the food and drink.

The wedding feasts went on for days

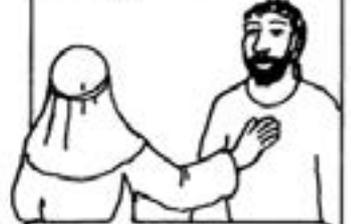


Then the wine ran out...



What a disaster! The bridegroom and his family would be shamed for life, and perhaps even sued!

Mary noticed...



Jesus, they've run out of wine!

So why are you telling me?



But Mary wasn't put off.

She told the servants



Do whatever he tells you.

Fill those six jars to the top with water



The water was for the special washing of hands before meals

and each jar held about 100 litres



Now take some out and serve it to the toast-master



He tried it....



...then he called to the bridegroom..



Most people serve the best wine first, then the rest later, but..

...this is the best wine I've ever tasted!



Impressive!



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