



Anglican Communion – Church of Ireland – Diocese of Clogher

Carrickmacross and Magheracloone with Ardragh Group of Parishes



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



Newsletter

November 2007

Worship

Christmas Services

We have been trying to sort out the Christmas Carols and Holy Communion services and at the moment the plan is to have Carols and Holy Communion in Ardragh on the 23rd December at 1pm and Carols in Magheracloone at 7pm on the same day. On Christmas Eve there will be Midnight Communion in Magheracloone at 11.30pm, and on Christmas Day services will be in Magheracloone at 9.00am and Carrickmacross at 10.30am. We have not yet discussed the Carrickmacross plans fully but if these times clash with other events please let us know.

Midweek Communion

After being disrupted somewhat in

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

October we return to the regular Thursday morning mid-week communion at 10.30am in St. Finbarr's in Carrickmacross when we have prayers for the sick and offer laying on hands for those who might request it.

Music

On a number of occasions we have been taken a little by surprise in Carrickmacross by the MIDI versions of the new hymns we are using. So we will have previews every six weeks or so to look at the music listed for the weeks ahead and either learn or change them as decided. The next session will be on Monday the 26th November at 8pm. All welcome!

Parish News

Study Group

We have been wanting to get a regular Bible Study/Prayer time up and running for some time but the monthly diary seems to have constantly filled with what has to be done crowding out what should

be done. So we are going to make a start with an Introduction to St. Matthew's Gospel, on four Monday's the 5th and 19th November and the 3rd and 17th December in the Parish Room. We can then begin to gauge what sort of meetings we can set up in the new year. We will look at the background to St. Matthew's Gospel because this is the Gospel Book we will be reading for the next year at our church services.

Select Vestries

There will be a meeting of the Carrickmacross Select Vestry on Tuesday 13th November at 8pm in the Parish Room and a meeting of the Magheracloone and Ardragh Select Vestry on Tuesday 4th Decmber at 8pm in Magheracloone Church.

Jack and Jill

We have received a receipt and note of thanks for the donation of E880 made to the Jack and Jill Children's Foundation by the members of the Confirmation Class. This need not be the end of our contact with this group which provides support for families of severely disabled children. We should continue to think of them if we are disposing of mobile phones as they can make money from recycling them, and perhaps there are other ways we might support

them in the future.

Diocesan News

Ematris Group

After six years of being without a Rector of their own the Bishop will shortly appoint someone to do the pastoral work in the Ematris Group of Parishes. We have been asked to support and work with the Ematris Group for the foreseeable future. We will not be united with them or anything like that but we will be looking after the worship rota there, marriages, funerals and other pastoral events. This will mean that the Rector will be going there perhaps on one Sunday a month to take communion services and the pastoral worker will be coming to the churches here to lead worship also. We are not entirely sure exactly how this will work out in practice but we hope that everyone will agree that we should work with the Diocese in this way to provide new opportunities for the Ematris Group after their very long vacancy.

Church News

New Issue of Search

The autumn edition of the Church of Ireland journal, Search, is a special issue on the European

THIS MONTH

Monday	5 th	8.00pm Study Group in Parish Room CMX
Wednesday	7 th	8.00pm Bowls in Bailieborough
Thursday	8 th	10.30am Midweek Communion CMX
Friday	9 th	7.30pm Table Tennis in Jackson Hall
Monday	12 th	8.00pm Institution of new Rector for Clough
Tuesday	13 th	8.00pm Select Vestry for Carrickmacross
Wednesday	14 th	8.00pm Bowls Match in Jackson Hall
Thursday	15 th	10.30am Midweek Communion CMX
Friday	16 th	7.30pm Table Tennis in Jackson Hall
Monday	19 th	8.00pm Study Group in Parish Room CMX
Wednesday	21 st	8.00pm Bowls Match in Jackson Hall
Thursday	22 nd	10.30am Midweek Communion CMX
Friday	23 rd	7.30pm Table Tennis in Jackson Hall
Monday	26 th	3.00pm Protestant Orphans AGM in Parish Room 8.00pm Music Preview in St. Finbarr's
Wednesday	28 th	8.00pm Bowling Practice in Jackson Hall
Thursday	29 th	10.30am Midweek Communion CMX
Friday	30 th	7.30pm Table Tennis in Jackson Hall

NEXT MONTH

Sunday	2 nd December	3.00pm Annual Carol Service, Crossduff
Tuesday	4 th December	Select Vestry Magheracloone and Ardragh
Sunday	23 rd Dec.	1.00pm Christmas Communion, Ardragh 7.00pm Carol Service Magheracloone
Monday	24 th Dec.	11.30pm Midnight Communion, Magheracl.
Tuesday	25 th Dec.	9.00am ? Holy Communion Magheracloone 10.30am Holy Communion Carrickmacross

Union, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome and the impending referendum in Ireland regarding the Reform Treaty.

In recent years the European nations have struggled to come to an agreement on a treaty on which to ground the political and cultural

life of the new enlarged Union. In church circles, there has been considerable concern about how best to acknowledge and safeguard the Christian heritage in which European life has been embedded for the last fifteen hundred years or more; and to do this without excluding those of

Sunday Services

4th November 2007, 4th before Advent. Proper 26 (Green)

Habakk. 1.1-4, 2.1-4, Psalm 119.137-144, 2 Thess. 1.1-4, 11-12, Lk 19.1-10

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

11th November 2007, 3rd before Advent, Proper 27 (Green)

Haggai 1.15b-2.9, Psalm 145.1-5, 18-22, 2 Thess. 2.1-5, 13-17, Lk. 20.27-38

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

18th November 2007, 2nd before Advent. Proper 28 (Green)

Isaiah 65.17-25, Song of Isaiah, 2 Thess. 3.6-13, Luke 21.5-19

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

25th Nov. 2007, Sunday before Advent, Proper 29 (Green)

Jeremiah 23.1-6, Benedictus, Colossians 1.11-20, Luke 23.33-43

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

2nd December 2007, Advent Sunday Year A (Purple)

Isaiah 2.1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13.11-14, Matthew 24.36-44

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

9th December 2007, 2nd Sunday in Advent (Purple)

Isaiah 11.1-10, Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19, Romans 15.4-13, Matthew 3.1-12

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

Parish Ministry Team

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other faiths or none.

The large Islamic population in 21st century Europe is one the Treaty must cater for also. Dr Maha El-Kaisy of TCD has experienced the issue of the double identity of European Muslims in her own life, and has contributed an exposition of the thought of Prof. Tariq Ramadan, the leading thinker in this area.

This issue of Search also offers the second part of research by Dr Susan Patterson, Dean of Killala, on collaborative ministry, currently under discussion in the western dioceses of the Church of Ireland, and some reflections by the Rev. Sonia Hicks, a Methodist minister of African descent, on the bicentenary of the British Government's Abolition of Slavery. Finally, there are some thought-provoking book reviews, including critiques of Richard Dawkins' recent arguments for atheism and the second book, by Dr Stephen White, Dean of Killaloe, in his current trilogy, *A Space for Unknowing*.

China

Recently a delegation from the Dublin University Far Eastern Mission, comprising Eimhim Walsh (Student Secretary), Joseph Gorman (Secretary) and Dr Kerry Houston (Treasurer), will

attend celebrations in Fuzhou to mark the centenary of DUFEM. They will subsequently meet Chinese mission partners in Shanghai and pursue links made with the Anglican Church in Hong Kong where they will attend the ordination of Ms Cindy Kwok who spent some time in Ireland as a guest of DUFEM. *(From the Irish Times Church of Ireland Notes)*

Reports

Harvest Thanksgiving

The final Harvest Thanksgiving in Carrickmacross was a most enjoyable evening with a lively service, interesting address and marvellous supper and a church that was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Indeed we thank all those who prepared our three churches for these services. Everyone seems to agree that the decorations this year were a credit to all involved.

Mission Involvement

Following on from the three mission society speakers we had at our Harvest Thanksgiving services we had a short discussion with the Bishop over lunch after the Confirmation Service. He was very keen that we would consider becoming involved with the small and struggling Anglican Church in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa.

He has had personal contact with the Bishop there, and would like us to consider giving support to them. I have sent an email to an address Bishop Jackson gave me and currently am awaiting a reply.

The other possibilities are that we get involved with reconstruction in Southern Sudan as suggested by David Gough, our first speaker, or with a facility for disabled people in Nepal as mentioned by Roger Cooke.

Confirmation

There are so many good things to say about the confirmation service it is hard to know where to begin. First of all we thank the candidates for their involvement in the preparation and the day itself. They are a good bunch of young people and we will pray hard for them as they set out on life's pilgrimage. Bishop Jackson was very impressed with the large congregation and the involvement of everyone in the prayer and singing. We thank Andrew Merrin, confirmed also this year in Dundalk for reading the Epistle and we were delighted to have Canon Ronnie Bourke, who had started the class off and is related by marriage to two of the candidates, with us for the service. The Rector and Bishop would like to thank the parents for their

unexpected and very acceptable gift of a token for dinner in the Nuremore Hotel. It was almost like going on holiday a day early!

All our visitors seemed to be impressed with how the arrangements went and we thank the wardens and all others who prepared and decorated the church, the job is not over however, we now have to make our parish and church the sort of place our young people will want to go on being part of.

Holiday

While the Rector was on holiday Mr Walter Pringle agreed to answer any urgent calls and we are grateful to him for doing this. We also thank Canon Donald Atkinson now retired in Rockcorry but at one time the Rector's neighbour in Killaloe Diocese who on Sunday 28th October led the services.

While we were in Amherst we worshipped at the 8am Communion in the Episcopal Church. It's not the biggest service of the day, that is at 10.30am, but the church was still virtually full as the Rector told us about all he had done during his sabbatical year. He also announced that the Parish administrator had resigned during the week and he was looking for voluntary office help to keep things going! In the

prayers there was a strong emphasis on soldiers from the town currently overseas and on healing for PECUSA, the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, in their current divisions over the place of homosexuals in the church.

People

Bereavement

We extend our sincere sympathy to all the members of the Babington family of Moykieran and particularly to her sons and daughters, Florence, David, Samuel, Henry, Thomas, William, May, John, George, June and Freda on the death of their mother Margaret. We also sympathise with her sister Mary in Belfast and step-sister Jean in Mayo. Her funeral took place in St. Molua's Church on the 18th October and she was laid to rest in the family plot. Having come to work locally from her home near Oldcastle she was married at 18 and spent the rest of her life in Moykieran. Margaret Babington was a dedicated mother who had lived for her family and right to her final illness had remained at the centre of their family life. It was a great pleasure to visit her monthly and have a little service with her and hear from her about how the

various members of the family were doing. We know that she will be greatly missed by all her family and we pray that they will be comforted in the knowledge that the great love she had for all of them is only a reflection of the love our Lord had for her. 'Well done thou good and faithful servant'.

Activities

Table Tennis

On Friday nights from 7.30pm to 9.00pm beginning on Friday 10th November we are hoping to have a junior table tennis club running in the Jackson Hall. We need to have someone who is registered with the Safeguarding Trust in charge each night and we would hope that any parents who can help would be willing to undergo the training and vetting so that they could take part in helping.

Film Making

A long term project that we would like to start soon is that of making a short film about the history of Carrickmacross Parish. If it went well we might try to do the same for our other churches. The idea would be to encourage young people, who are already confirmed and upwards, to get involved in writing a script, interviewing and gathering information and then

filming, editing and producing a DVD. If anyone is interested or has any suggestions please get in touch with the Rector.

Women's Group

Our October meeting was a very interesting talk about the heart by Lorna Moyes. Aided by an excellent power point presentation, including animation and a mannequin she gave us a large amount of information in a very enjoyable way. Sadie Braiden and Caroline Merrin won the quiz. Lorna moved her talk forward by a month as the arranged speaker could not come at short notice and we are very grateful to her for this. The next meeting of the Mothers' Union and Friends will be held on Thursday 8th November at 8.00pm in the Parish Room. when Martina from 'Nails by Tina' will talk about our caring for our hands, nails and feet along with nail art.

Bowls

November is a busy month for the Bowling Club with friendly matches arranged for the 7th away in Bailieborough, the 14th at home with Braddox and the 21st at home with Billyhill. It is exactly 30 years since Bowling began in Bailieborough and their first match then was with Carrickmacross so the match on

the 7th will be a special 30 year celebration.

Notices

Monaghan Orphan AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Monaghan Protestant Orphan Society will be held in Carrickmacross this year. The meeting will take place in the Parish Room on Monday 26th November at 3.00pm and not on the 3rd December as stated in the last newsletter. It is many years since the AGM was held here and we hope that it will be well attended by parishioners. We will also want to offer hospitality to our guests so please make a note to come along.

Crossduff Carols

On Sunday 2nd December at 3.00pm everyone is invited to the annual carol service at Crossduff Church near Lough Egish. The Rector has been asked to preach at the service this year.

Website

All previous parish newsletters as well as other information can be found on the parish website at www.carrickmacross.clogher.anglican.org/