

Mullavilly News

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To Know Christ
and to make
Him known

MAY 2009

NEWS FROM THE EASTER VESTRY

With a low attendance of only 21, the Easter Vestry was a clear indication that all is well in the parish! Generally, if there is any conflict or difficulty, this is indicated by a large attendance with a particular agenda for change. A small attendance suggests that parishioners are content with the way the business part of the parish is operating.

At the meeting, I presented a brief annual report and emphasised the current financial restraints. A significant number of parishioners are facing financial difficulties and this number is probably greater than we know. We need to be sensitive to this situation. At the same time, there are parishioners who are generally unaffected by the crisis but use it as an excuse for poor giving! At this particular time, those who can have an even greater responsibility to support the work of the church.

As the church accounts show, we are in considerable debt, which, at the current rate of giving and fund-raising, will take at least 5 years to clear. Before the rectory renovation began, commitments were made which would finance the project. If these had been honoured, then the debt would not be so great. However, a very generous core of parishioners are making monthly contributions and occasional larger donations which are greatly appreciated. The concerts and events also make a significant contribution. At that initial time, I had expressed the hope that the renovations would not impact on the general development of ministry within the parish.

Unfortunately, this hope has proved unrealistic. The debt has meant that other projects have to be curtailed or postponed. Therefore, the quicker we can clear the debt, the sooner we can return to focusing on other things, including overseas mission support and a full programme of maintenance on the church and centre.

In 2008, there were still bills to be paid on the rectory. This year, the rate of decrease in the debt should be much more noticeable and encouraging but it does require the involvement of everyone as they are best able.

Despite the negative "climate", the core ministry of the church still continues unhindered. The worship, the proclamation of the Gospel, the pastoral care and support and prayer keep going—just as they have done for almost 300 years. Next year, we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the consecration of the church building and we look forward with hope and backwards with thanksgiving as the Body of Christ continues "for ever and ever, Amen!"

APPOINTMENTS

The outgoing churchwardens, Robert Neill and Mark Doyle, relinquish their posts this week. They have both carried out their responsibilities extremely well and worshippers have appreciated the work they have done. We now welcome our two new churchwardens for the incoming year.

The people have appointed **Elaine Bleakney** as their churchwarden. Elaine, a teacher, lives on Unshinagh Lane with her husband, Mark and three children, Jillian, Robert and Alexander.

For rector's warden, I have appointed **Herbie Pearson**. Herbie is caretaker in Mullavilly Primary School. He lives in Laurelvale with his wife, Connie and son Adam. He has also two daughters, Laura McMullen and Julie Neill, and three grandchildren, Ellie, Matthew and Emily.

Alan Neill and Jackie McIntyre continue as glebewardens and the elected Select Vestry is as follows: Valerie Milne; Margaret Neill; Jean McClelland; Mary McKee; Brett Hannam; Robert Jennett; Nigel Metcalfe; Ian Milne; Sam McIntyre; Robert Neill; Colin Patterson; Bobby Quinn.

Contacting the rectory

Home	028 3884 0221
Mobile & Text	07989 743545
Office & Centre	028 3884 1918
Sam Black	028 3834 3267
email	mullavilly@btinternet.com
post	89 Mullavilly Road Tandragee BT62 2LX

To Know Christ and to make Him known

DATE	CHURCH MICE	FLOWERS	CRECHE	SCRIPTURE	NOTES
May 3rd	Carolyn	Sally-Ann Black	Wendy Hazley Gwen Kane	Alice Patterson	11am Holy Communion
May 10th		Georgie Wright	<i>The crèche has not been used by parents sufficiently to merit its continuation.</i>		11am Family Service
May 17th	Brian	Heather Harper		Robert Chapman	11am Holy Communion
May 24th	Margaret	Doreen Trimble	<i>The Centre will continue to be open if infants need "time out" and for toilets. A baby-changing station is located in the disability access toilet.</i>	Mark Doyle	11am Baptism 7pm Holy Communion
May 31st	Pauline	Gwen Kane		Jonathan Harper	7pm Baptism
June 7th	Joanne	Shirley Jenkinson	<i>The crèche can easily be re-started if there is a need. Nursery and KS1 children are welcome with the Church Mice</i>	Helen McClenaghan	11am Holy Communion 7pm Colin's Commissioning as Parish
June 14th		Hilary Beattie			11am Sunday School prizes

Family Service Refreshments in May served by Georgina Stewart, Amanda Stewart, Wendy Hazley and Valerie Milne.

Baptism Anniversaries

MAY: Corey Black (1st); Joshua Conn (3rd); Raymond Neill (4th); Fiona Mayes (4th)

From the Registers

Burial

March 20th Thomas Flavelle

April

Wed 29th 8pm Mothers' Union (NB date!)
8pm Diocesan Mission Night (Milltown Parish Centre)

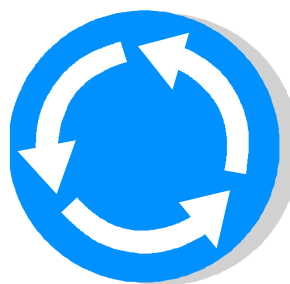
May

Fri 1st 8pm The Fridge starts back
Fri 8th TJHS Assembly
8th-10th General Synod
Sun 10th District Black Service in afternoon

June

Tues 2nd 8pm Select Vestry
Sun 7th 7pm commissioning of Colin Patterson as Parish Reader

The concert planned for May 8th has been cancelled.



The roadworks for the roundabout start on Monday April 27th and continue for 12 weeks. There will inevitable delays and detours so please drive with patience and care! The

Mullavilly Road is scheduled to be closed for 1 week starting June 1st

Mullavilly Parish Church No 1 A/C 2008

Income		Expenditure	
FWO	£ 62,544.54	Diocesan Charges [1]	£ 52,852.14
Graveyard Fees	£ 710.00	Assisting Clergy	£ 2,265.00
Interest on Unit Trusts-RCB	£ 918.28	Missions & Charities	£ 6,620.00
Donations	£ 584.93	6620.00	£ 6,620.00
Use of Hall	£ 715.00	Insurance	£ 1,697.01
Tax relief Gift Aid	£ 15,806.14	1697.01	£ 1,697.01
Church collections	£ 2,368.74	Maintenance & equipment	£ 3,415.54
Summer Madness	£ 827.00	Organist-Caretaker-Groundsman	£ 6,800.00
Diocesan Magazine	£ 119.90	Clerical & Stationary	£ 2,041.23
Cathedral lunch	£ 770.00	2041.23	£ 2,041.23
Sound System	£ 1,420.00	Sunday School	£ 1,097.10
Special collection-Women's		1097.10	£ 1,097.10
World Day of Prayer	£ 168.10	Chuch Hall telephone	£ 219.77
Confirmation service	£ 200.00	Rates	£ 604.89
		Heat & Electric	£ 2,903.07
		Bank fees and interest	£ 5,031.20
		Summer Madness	£ 1,027.50
		Diocesan Magazine	£ 126.00
		Rectory Maintenance	£ 602.55
		Cathedral Lunch	£ 1,140.00
		Women's World Day of Prayer	£ 168.10
		Sound System	£ 1,259.66
		Archbishop's Fund-Confirmation	£ 200.00
		Mother's Union-Armagh Diocese	£ 186.00
		Transfer to No 2 account	£ 5,000.00
Cash at Bank 31.12.07	£ 15,809.76	Cash at Bank 31.12.08	£ 7,705.63
	£ 102,962.39		£ 102,962.39

No 2 A/C 2008

Income		Expenditure	
Subscriptions	£ 15,145.00	Rectory	£ 28,083.82
Transfer from No 1	£ 5,000.00	Donation to Parkinson's Society	£ 4,300.00
Concert	£ 3,540.00	<i>Alison Conn Fund [2]</i>	
In memory/In lieu of Flowers	£ 1,190.00	<i>Equipment Rainbow Guides 83.46</i>	
Pig Roast	£ 1,464.00	<i>Baby changing station 199.75</i>	£ 283.21
Concert- Parkinson's Society	£ 4,300.00	<i>Balance - Alison Conn Fund</i>	£ 2,231.79
Balance due to Bank			
31.12.08	£ 98,508.85	Balance due to Bank 31.12.07	£ 94,249.03
	£ 129,147.85		£ 129,147.85

Notes:

- [1] diocesan charges include stipend & pension, all expenses of central and diocese church activity, including contribution of Archbishop's stipend, Priorities Fund contribution and other sundries. A full breakdown is available.
- [2] This fund, in memory of Alison Conn, is available to all our children's organisations and the Mums and Toddlers group for the purchase of equipment.

We are indebted to Gerald Kerr and Colin Patterson for maintaining our financial records so accurately. Colin took on the responsibility of honorary treasurer in April. The Freewill Offerings to both accounts are recorded by Gillian Bleakley, Simon Shortt, Mark Bleakney and David Maginnis.

Jonathan, Elizabeth and Rachel are extremely grateful to everyone who has supported their fund-raising for the forth-coming trips to Kenya and Burundi. The generosity of friends and parishioners has been truly wonderful and encouraging. We now wish them well on their travels. Rebecca Patterson is hosting a coffee morning at her home in Richhill in June to help fund her mission partnership trip to Kenya and Mozambique—see back page for details.

OUR OVERSEAS PARTNERSHIP

The following is the most recent blog from our partners at the Madi/West Nile Training Centre, Aart and Geesje Den Breejen:

Full details can be found on www.cmsireland.org

Another academic year has started with 47 new students at the Vocational training centre (VTC). 60 students, who were interviewed, were admitted. However, from the past we learned that not all of them would make it to enrol, school fees being one of the problems. The fees are not high, certainly not compared with other education here, but still too high for some pupils.

A vocational training school from Ireland donated some good 2nd hand tools and machines. With the sea freight from the Netherlands we're expecting some electrical machines too, that will help the school to generate income.

The electricity that will be required for the running of it is getting more and more problematic. Energy is now coming from a local business in town; they've got a big generator (1.5 Megawatt), running on diesel. It was going fine, with top days of 12 hours a day. People started small business, depending on this electric service. The state owned company was privatised while it worked on a dam for hydropower. Plenty of hope for a bright future. In the meantime the current generator couldn't serve the demand, the hydropower project is taking more time and money than foreseen. And the planned profit is not there. Transport of diesel, via Kenya, doesn't go smoothly. After we came back from the Netherlands in January we've had weeks without electricity. Last week was a good one though, couple of days of 24 hours! The president was visiting Arua.

Another project I (Geesje) visit weekly is a group of HIV/Aids positive mothers at the local hospital at Arua. They come from various backgrounds, some better-off, others poor, some Christian, others Muslim. They are being taught how to sew straight lines with machines and produce napkins from beautiful African wax materials. Thus far, most products are being sold via a Fair Trade contact person in the USA.

Anne Fleur walks out of the back gate every weekday at half past 7 in her white/blue checked school uniform. She walks together with Asu, one of the neighbour boys, who's also a P1 pupil. Ruben follows at around quarter past 8, for the nursery school, while Jan Lucas keeps enjoying his freedom within the compound. Dutch lessons are there for the afternoon programme. After all the changes we've seen off late, we're just glad to develop a certain routine.

You are Invited to
Coffee Morning

(10:30am)

June 6th at Patterson's
 13, Castle Drive, Richhill

Rebecca is returning to Kenya and Mozambique as part of a mission partnership team.



Relaxation classes are currently being held in the Parish Centre on Wednesday mornings at 10.30. They are led by Andrew White and you are asked to bring a mat and wear comfortable clothes. (£5 per morning)

CSI MULLAVILLY

*A MURDER HAS BEEN
 COMMITTED*

Can You Solve the Mystery

MAY 30th

At the Parish Centre

Commencing at 7pm

Followed by a Bar- *Adults £10* **becue!**

Children Over 11 £5

*Bring a Friend to help
 question the
 witnesses*

*Your little grey cells will be tested as you
 investigate this crime. Speak to the sus-
 pects, pick the truth from the lies and*