

Mullavilly News

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The Magazine
for Mullavilly
Parish

September
2007

The summer is almost over and the time has come again to sort out our autumn and winter diaries. The calendar on the back page will give you some idea of what's happening in the near future. Most of the activities remain the same with just a few minor changes.

In this busy society, there are so many pressures on our time and also so many opportunities. The activities of the church often come bottom of the list in so many lives, after sport, leisure, and CSI New York/Miami/Special Victims! Our activities do not exist for their own benefit, but they are part of a bigger picture. Every activity is a ministry of the Church to the community and to you, the parishioners. When you take part, you do two things— you may gain support, encouragement and friendship and you may give support, encouragement and friendship. In other words, our activities are opportunities for each of us to minister to each other. Your presence is important to someone!

This applies equally to our common worship on Sundays. It is possible that you may “get” nothing out of a service, but, by simply being there, you may well have been an encouragement to someone else. If you have children or teenagers, encourage them to take part in the things that are available. It will help them in later life to feel comfortable with church and to view the church as a central part of their life. Instead of being a formal barrier to God, the church will be an open channel of love and care.

So get active! Give and receive in worship, in friendship and in encouragement.
Start with the Full Attendance Sunday on September 9th!

	What?	Who?
Badminton	An informal night with good fun and lots of banter! All abilities are welcome but you must be Senior High School/College age. There is no upper age limit!	David Overend 38841582
Bowls	Both competitive and informal indoor bowling in a supportive and friendly club.	Jackie Wright 38841441
Prayer Group	Tea and coffee followed by a time of prayer. The atmosphere is informal.	Jean McClelland 38840325
Boy's Club	For boys age 4-7. A very popular group which focuses on games and craft	Wendy Hazley 38841207
Rainbows	Part of the guiding group for girls age 4-7 with games, activities and badges	Heather Harper 38840221
Brownies	As above, for girls age 8-10	Jacqui McLoughlin 38339416
Guides	As above for girls aged 11+	Reetha Flavelle
Mothers' Union	Presentations and talks of special interest to women of all ages .	Thelma McCrory 38841414
Sunday School	Bible Teaching and activities for children age 4-12	Heather Harper 38840221
Youth Fellowship	For teenagers 13+ involving discussion, Bible Study and fun.	Amanda Stewart 38841961
The Fridge	Drop-In youth club for secondary school kids.	
Later @ The Fridge	A casual meeting place for the 16-25 only. This is a new and experimental group.	Brian Harper 028 38840221
Over 55 Club	Exactly as it says on the tin! An afternoon for over 55s.	

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From the Register:

Baptism:
 Aug 12th Amy, daughter of Paul & Lisa Segon

Marriage
 Aug 18th Kenny Clarke & Clare Coates

Burial
 July 13th Doris Corry (St Columba)
 July 30th Norman Strain, Annagh Hill
 Aug 23rd Mildred Hodgen (St Mark's)

Cathedral Sunday

Mullavilly Parish has been invited to worship in St Patrick's Cathedral on 20th January 2008. This will involve cancelling both morning services and providing a coach or two to Armagh. Several parishes have already taken part in this project and found it to be a very enjoyable morning. Mark it in your new 2008 diaries now!

Full Attendance Sunday

If we really did have a full attendance, with 950 parishioners, we could just about squeeze in using all three services!

However, let's see if we can improve on last year's total of only 260 for the full day! Thankfully, the attendance improved as the year went on. If you're coming to the 11am service, plan to stay for refreshments. The worship should be finished at 11:45am, so you still have 15 minutes spare to talk to people!

Sunday School opens up again on September 16th at 10am. They'll be starting to prepare for the Harvest Thanksgiving so make sure and bring good voices! New members are welcome at about age 4 if they can sit quietly and focus on what they're doing. Parents are welcome to hover (hoover?) in the background until their child settles in.

Royal Arch Purple

We will have the privilege of hosting the annual church service of the Tandragee District Royal Arch Purple Chapter No 4. The service will take place on September 2nd at 3:30pm. We last hosted this service in 1995.

DATE	FLOWERS	CRECHE	SCRIPTURE	CONTACTS
Sept 2nd	Carole Overend	Gwen Kane Julie Magowan	Rebecca Milne	Home 028 3884 0221
Sept 9th	Jean Hawthorne			Mobile & Text 07989 743545
Sept 16th	Carole Thompson	Pauline King Jacqui McLoughlin	Rosemary Neill	Office & Centre 028 3884 1918
Sept 23rd	Edith McConville	Joanne Milligan Karen McClelland	Elaine Bleakney	Sam Black 028 3834 3267 07871 591522 theblacks@hotmail.com
Sept 30th	Mandy Wright	Gladys Shortt Amanda Stewart	Robert Chapman	email mullavilly@btinternet.com
Oct 7th	Sally-Ann Black	Beverley Stewart Judith Wilson	Mark Doyle	post 89 Mullavilly Road Tandragee BT62 2LX

Refreshments at the Family Service will be hosted by Amanda Stewart, Georgina Stewart, Elaine Bleakney, Betty Russell

Congratulations to Adam Pearson who has recently been appointed as Youth Pastor to the Portadown Methodist Circuit. After completing his university degree last year, Adam has been playing a growing role in the parish, especially in his commitment to the Youth Fellowship. Known as "AP" he quickly won the respect of the members and slipped easily into the role of leader. He instigated a successful mid-week Bible Study for the older teens and took the lead role in organising the Fellowship's attendance at Summer Madness. Once he settles in to his new time-table, Adam hopes to be able to continue to help with some aspects of youth work in Mullavilly.

His new responsibilities have kicked off with a bang, beginning with being a leader in the Xpression project in Portadown. His other responsibilities will involve organising youth events in Thomas Street, Edenderry Epworth, Mahon and the other churches in the circuit, developing a strategy for youth ministry, supporting the voluntary youth workers in the churches and providing pastoral encouragement to the young people. Hopefully next month, Adam will be able to tell us something about how he has risen to this new challenge. We wish him every blessing and prayerful support as he begins his new ministry.

SCHOOL LEAVERS

A special youth service has been organised by the Youth Fellowship to mark the "moving on" of those who have finished their school days. The "guest preacher" will be the Youth Pastor of Portadown Methodist Circuit (see above!) and worship will be supported by Sharon McCord and Warren Atwell (Richhill). This would be a good service for all our teenagers to come along to. Parents and family should also attend and show their support and prayers for all those who are now stepping out into a more independent lifestyle in work or at university.

SCHOOL LEAVERS COMMISSIONING SERVICE

SUNDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

7PM

Parish Fellowship

It's always difficult to know what to call this particular parish group! Is it a Bible Study? Is it a chatty group? And who is it for? Perhaps the very religious? Or those who are confused? Or those who want to know more? Actually, it's an opportunity to develop our faith, at whatever stage we are at, by delving deeper into some interesting faith-related topics. Sometimes this involves looking at Scripture, sometimes it involves a sharing of varying opinions. Sometimes, it only involves sitting and listening.

For the first few weeks of this season, the theme will be "Worshipping in the Church of Ireland for those who haven't quite got the hang of it and need to know when to stand up and sit down!" We'll look at the reasons for having a Prayer Book, the words of the canticles, how to engage sincerely with both formal and informal styles; the purpose of services for special occasions such as marriages, funerals and baptisms.

Why follow this theme? "Public Demand" is probably the easiest answer. Quite a few of our congregation have joined us from other denominations. Others have maybe never understood our worship but they've been afraid to ask. Over the years, the Church of Ireland pattern of worship has become less formal and there are many variations which can cause confusion. The theme is designed to help everyone feel more comfortable when they meet for worship, and to have a better understanding of what it's all about. As a result, I hope worship will become a "worship from the heart" rather than "from the lips" and therefore a deeper and more meaningful expression of our faith.

Confirmation candidates should now be attending Youth Fellowship regularly and be attending church. Those seeking confirmation should, as usual, be starting 3rd or 4th year at school (yr 10 & 11) or older. Parents have a responsibility, based on the baptism promises, to encourage their children to attend church and classes, but, after the classes, the choice to be confirmed remains with the candidate and myself. The confirmation itself will be planned for April/May 2008 and we are waiting a date from the Archbishop.

September 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2 09:30-10:15 Holy Communion 11-12 Holy Communion 15:30-16:30 Royal Arch Purple Service 19-20 Evening Prayer 20:15-21:30 Youth Fellowship	3	4 10-11 Prayer Meeting 20-22 Select Vestry	5	6 20-21:30 Sunday School Leaders Meeting 20-21:30 Start of Bowling (to be confirmed)	7 08:30-09 T'gee Junior High School Assembly	8
9 09:30-10:15 Holy Communion 11-12 FAMILY SERVICE 19-20:30 Youth Service 20:30-21:45 Youth Fellowship	10 20-21:30 Bowling Club	11 10-11 Prayer Meeting 20-21:30 Parish Fellowship	12 20-22 Mothers' Union Rural Deanery Service: Drumbanagher	13 20-21:30 Bowling Club	14	15 * wedding of Demelza Wilson & Ben Hurley
16 09:30-10:15 Holy Communion 11-12 Holy Communion 19-20 Evening Prayer 20:15-21:30 Youth Fellowship	17 18:30-19:45 Rain bows, Brownies & Guides 20-21:30 Bowling Club	18 10-11 Prayer Meeting 20-21:30 Fridge Leaders Training	19 18:30-19:30 Boy's Club 20-23 Badminton	20 10-12 Ramblin Rose Hospice Coffee Morning 20-21:30 Bowling Club	21 * wedding of Lisa Black & Simon Rafferty	22
23 09:30-10:15 Holy Communion 11-12 Morning Prayer 19-20 Evening Prayer 20:15-21:30 Youth Fellowship	24 11:15-12:15 Holy Communion in Rathowen 18:30-19:45 Rain bows, Brownies & Guides 20-21:30 Bowling Club	25 10-11 Prayer Meeting 20-21:30 Parish Fellowship	26 18:30-19:30 Boy's Club 20-23 Badminton	27 20-21:30 Bowling Club	28 20-22 The Fridge 22-23:55 Later @ the Fridge	29
30 09:30-10:15 Holy Communion 11-12 Morning Prayer and baptism 19-20 Evening Prayer 20:15-21:30 Youth Fellowship	1	2	3	4	5	6