

Mullavilly News

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The Magazine
for Mullavilly
Parish

Summer 2008

An Audience of One

I'm writing this front page on the morning after the night before! Last night, we were so privileged to host Shades Mountain Baptist choir in the church. Once I got over the deep disappointment and embarrassment of the poor attendance (about half way through the first number), I found myself picked up by the music and focussed on the glory of God. For almost two hours, the audience were transported through an exceptionally high standard of contemporary and traditional music. It is difficult to pick out any items which were "highlights", but the soloist Rosetta Johnston, connected to Diana Ross and the Supremes, was certainly memorable.

However, it was the attitude of the singers which truly impressed. They had sincerity in their worship and a deep humility in their conversations. Throughout their visit, they constantly expressed their appreciation in being allowed to sing in such a beautiful venue at the Parish Church, in a congregation that was older than their country!

I have one CD of the choir and the title track is called "Audience of One". This title reflects not just the purpose of the choir singing, but the purpose of every hymn, every prayer and, indeed, every act that we carry out in the name of Christ. In everything that we do, we seek only to glorify God. We are not called to be "people-pleasers" but "God-pleasers." Most of the time, this does not cause any conflict, but occasionally, we may face the challenge of saying or doing things which we know will displease God, yet will win us the favour of friends. The choice should be easy, but, as we all know, it is extremely difficult! It can take steely determination and faith to keep ourselves firmly focussed on the audience of One and to perform of this world's stage only to please Him.

Of course, there is always an upside! There is comfort in knowing that, even if the world judges us as failures, by standards of beauty, intelligence, qualifications, popularity or celebrity, the audience that really matters—the Audience of One—sees us as precious and unique creations under His care and love.

Contacting the rectory

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Pastoral Care

From June 23rd to July 24th, pastoral care will be in the hands of the Revd Sam Black. Please remember that Sam is not in daily contact with parishioners and you must keep him well-informed of hospital admissions, bereavements etc.



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DATE	FLOWERS	CRECHE	SCRIPTURE	NOTES
June 8th	Evelyn Shortt			11am Sunday School Prizes
June 15th	Carole Overend	Pauline King Jacqui Moore	Robert Chapman	11am Holy Communion
June 22nd	Jean Hawthorne	Joanne Milligan Karen McClelland	Ian Howard	7pm Holy Communion
June 29th	Carole Thompson	Gladys Shortt Tanya MKittrick	Elaine Bleakney	

Summer Flowers	July 6th	Edith McConville	August 3rd	Heather Harper
	July 13th	Sally-Ann Black	August 10th	Gwen Kane
	July 20th	Mandy Wright	August 17th	Shirley Jenkinson
	July 27th	Georgie Wright	August 24th	Hilary Beattie
			August 31st	Maureen Milligan

Parishioners are welcome to help out with any of our rotas. Crèche attendants must be at least 18 and new additions to the team will need to consent to a police check. This should now be standard practice for everyone in contact with children. If you are unable to fulfil your rota date, please arrange a swap with another name.

Dates for your diary

JUNE

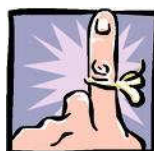
Mon 2nd	11:15am Holy Communion in Rathowen
Tues 3rd	8pm Select Vestry
Thurs 5th	wedding of Jonathan Elliott and Lesley Palmer
Sat 7th	8pm Pig Roast and Square Dance
Mon 9th	St Columba's Day
Wed 11th	Clergy Training Day in Mullavilly St Barnabus Day
27th-2nd	Summer Madness

JULY

Sunday 6th	4pm Annual Orange Service with parade from Bridge Wall
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Don't Forget!

During July and August, there is only one Morning Service at 10:30am



Baptism Anniversaries

1st: Jonathan Stewart; Lucy MacDonald; Kerry Louise Gibson; Jamie Clarke; Mia Crowe; Oliver Crowe

2nd: Ben Black; Louis Willis

4th: Jonathan Conn; Molly Willis; Abbey Mardell

From the Registers

Baptism

May 18th: Corey Philip, son of Philip and Jane Black

Every Blessing to the Revd Sam Black who will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of his ordination on July 7th

Graveyard Management

Recently, the Select Vestry has been considering how to protect our burial space for the future use of parishioners. As an interim measure, in preparation for a re-mapping of the graveyard, no new applications for registration will be considered. A small number have been received during the year and these will be honoured. In future, the following will apply:

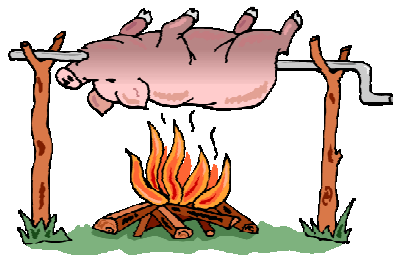
- If you do not already have permission to bury in a family grave, you will be allocated a burial space when required (which will, of course, then be available for your successors until full).
- Non-parishioners who do not already have permission to be buried in the graveyard will not be permitted to do so.
- The current burial fee for non-parishioners in any grave (£100) is raised to £500, reflecting the charge in other cemeteries and the cost of maintenance.

These changes should cause minimal concern for our parishioners but if you have any cause for anxiety, please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss the issue.

PIG ROAST & SQUARE DANCE

SATURDAY JUNE 7TH

The last tickets (£10) are available for sale for the summer party in the Parish Centre. This is a very popular event and we look forward to a night of fun, food and entertainment. If you feel able to help with the erection of the marquee this week, please contact a member of the Select Vestry to volunteer.



A note from Sharon

I would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee morning in April to raise funds for my trip to Sao Paulo, Brazil.

£1900 was donated.

12 students from Queen's University, Belfast, chaplain, the Revd Patrick McGlinchey and assistant chaplain Erika Frank, leave for Brazil early on June 9th from Dublin via Amsterdam and return on July 1st.

We will be working with Casa Filidelphia, a partner of TearFund, in an orphanage for children affected by HIV/AIDS, helping the children, some general maintenance and taking some teenagers on a camping trip.

Your prayerful support would be appreciated for our travels and the work we will undertake.

Sharon McCord

Over the summer, a number of our young people are taking part in mission work. Emma King is going to London to work with children and several of our parishioners will be involved with the Xpression project in Portadown during August. We wish them every blessing as they give up their holiday time in this way.



Over 55 Trip

The 4-day coach trip to Donegal, which was planned for June, has been postponed to September. As many of you know, Alan was ill after his hip replacement and would have been unable to lead the trip. He is now recovering and should be able to keep good order among the group by September.

Country Concerts

Two further Country Concerts have been scheduled for the winter. The first, in November, organised by the Overends and Jennetts, will raise money in support of the Parkinsons Society. The second, in February, will benefit the Parish Development Fund (rectory renovation). This second concert requires a small number of sponsors to cover the costs of advertising and artists. If you would like to be involved, either publicly or anonymously, please see Emo Overend or any member of the Select Vestry.

SUMMER MADNESS

Amanda Stewart, Kerrie Shortt and Mark Doyle are leading the youth group to Summer Madness this year. They will be working closely with Adam Pearson and the team from Resonate (Portadown Methodist Circuit Youth Fellowship). The festival has become a key feature of youth ministry and plays a vital part in the development of our young people.



Continuing Work at the Rectory

Wet weather hampered the final restoration of the rectory last year and through the winter. However, the good weather of April and May has meant that the garden is now shored and rotivated and waiting to be rolled and sown out. The house itself has had its 1st year assessment and is awaiting a few adjustments to doors etc and a plumbing problem in the shower.

Choir from Alabama

As mentioned on the front page, we had a very enjoyable night with the Shades Mountain Baptist Choir. We are grateful to Gareth Martin for arranging this concert for us. You can read more about the choir and their church at www.shades.org



Sunday School Prizes

The annual Sunday School Prizes will be distributed at the Family Service on June 8th. All Sunday School members are expected to attend the service. The prizes constitute a large part of the Sunday School budget and it is good to see them passing into the hands of those who have deserved them by their faithful attendance throughout the year. We are extremely grateful to the parents who have provided the encouragement and to the teachers, Valerie, Pauline, Rebecca, Georgina, Jonathan and Lee and to the assistants Elizabeth, Rachel and Emma, and to Heather for the organising and support.

ENJOY THE SUMMER!