

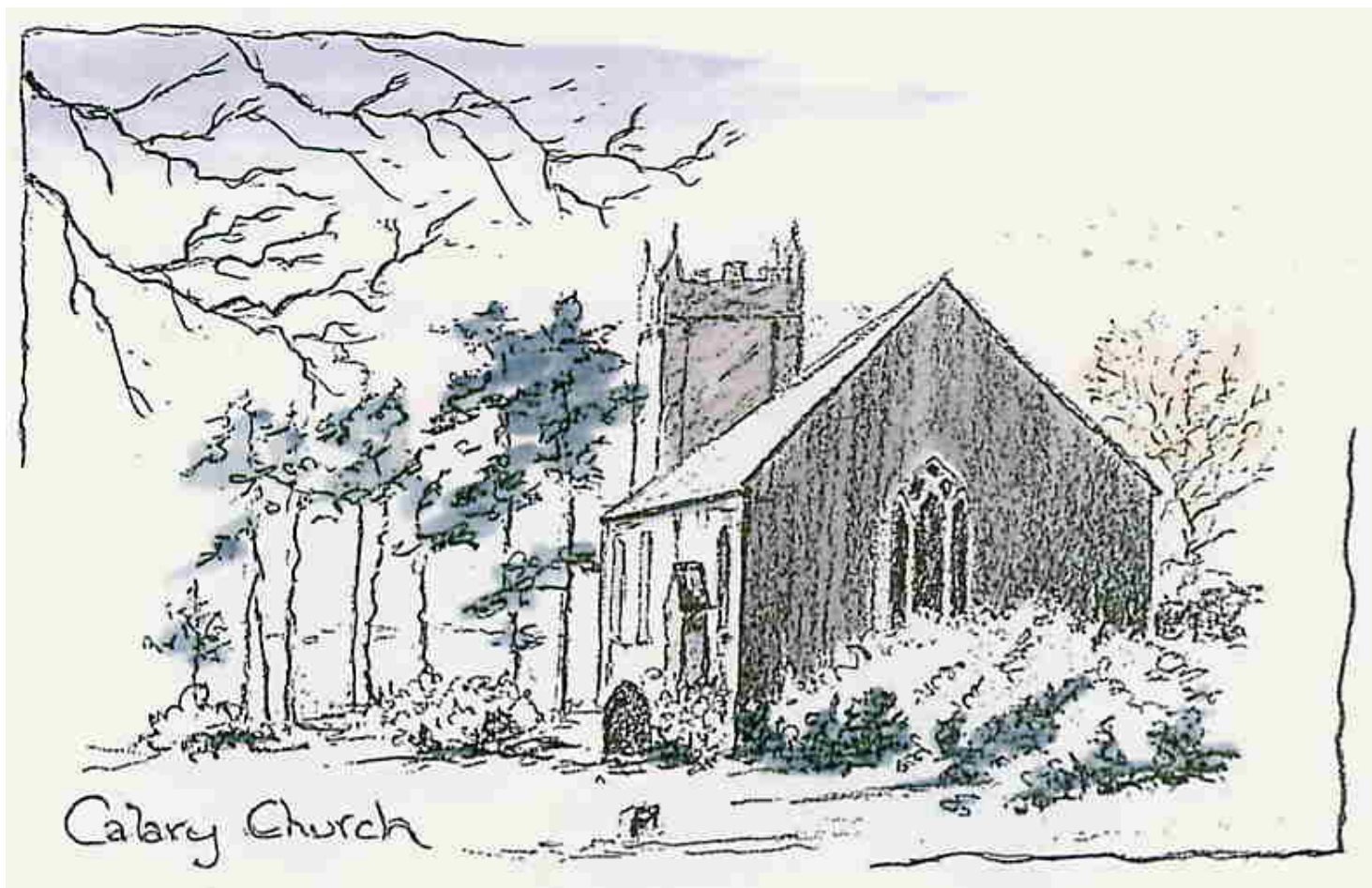
PARISH INFORMATION NEWSS

SHEET

Parish of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy with Calary

CHRISTMAS 2008

December 08/January 09



MAY GOD GRANT YOU ALL A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL
CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!

Services in December



DATE	CHURCH	TIME	SERVICE	READING
Sunday 7th:				
	Calary	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 40:
	St. Matthew's	10.45 am	Morning Prayer	1 - 11
<i>S.S. & Crèche</i>	Newcastle	12 noon	Holy Communion	2Peter3: 8-15
Sunday 14th:				
	Calary	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Isaiah 61:
	St. Matthew's	10.45 am	Holy Communion	1-4 & 8-end
<i>S.S. & Crèche</i>	Newcastle	12 noon	Morning Prayer	1Thess. 5:
	N/C Hospital	3.00 pm	Carols	16 - 24
Friday 19th:				
	Calary	7.30 pm	Carol Service	
Sunday 21st:				
	Newcastle	11.00 am	Nativity Play & Children's Carols	
	Newcastle	7.00 pm	Carol Service	
Tuesday 23rd:				
	Newcastle	11.00 am	St. Francis' N.S. Carol Service	
Wednesday 24th: Christmas Eve				
	Newcastle	11.30 pm	Holy Communion	Acts 13: 16 - 26
CHRISTMAS DAY (Thursday 25 th)				
	Calary	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 9: 2 - 7
	St. Matthew's	10.45 am	Holy Communion	Titus2:11-14
	Newcastle	12 noon	Family Christmas Praise	
Sunday 28th				
	Calary	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Matt. 2:
	St. Matthew's	11.00 am	Morning Prayer	13 - 18

Holy Communion is celebrated every Wednesday, with prayer for the



sick, at 10.30 am in St Matthew's followed by a cup of tea and chat in the McLean Room. All welcome!



Services in January

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	SERVICE	READING
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Sunday 4th:

Calary St. Matthew's Newcastle	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Is.60: 1 - 6
	10.45 am	Morning Prayer	Ephesians 3: 1 - 12
	12 noon	Holy Communion	

Sunday 11th:

Calary St. Matthew's Newcastle	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Gen. 1: 1 - 5
	10.45 am	Holy Communion	Acts 19: 1 - 7
	12 noon	Morning Prayer	

S.S. &
Crèche

Sunday 18th:

Calary St. Matthew's Newcastle	9.30 am	Family Service	1 Samuel 3: 1 - 10
	10.45 am	Morning Prayer	
	12 noon	Family Service	

Crèche

Sunday 25th:

Calary St. Matthew's Newcastle	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Jeremiah 1: 4 - 10
	10.45 am	Family Service	
	12 noon	Morning Prayer	Acts 9: 1 - 22

S.S. &
Crèche



Please send any items for inclusion in February PINS to:

Rev. William Bennett
or
Clodagh Jennings

mobile: 087 9480317

mobile: 086 8558886



email
website

info@newcastleparish.org
www.newcastleparish.org

From the Rector

Ever heard the question 'Why did it happen'? We all meet situations when that is an appropriate question to ask. It is good to ask questions and even better to expect and understand good answers.

Christmas is almost with us again and we could ask WHY? Why did he come?

Understanding the reason is to understand the core of the Christian Gospel and to miss the meaning means that we can never fully appreciate what real peace and security are all about. Christmas is incomplete without Easter and the resurrection because that was the reason why HE came.

Absolute Love and absolute Justice meet in Jesus. God's justice means that the punishment for disobedience is death but God's Love sent the most amazing gift of a baby who would eventually die that death in my place so I can be delivered from the penalty I rightly deserve.

Please take this as your invitation to join with us as we celebrate this wonderful gift, the Calendar of services will inform you where and when you can worship with us, especially over this Christmas period. **May you all have a very happy and peaceful Christmas.**



connect08
with God and each other

; It is hard to believe it is over after months of planning but CONNECT 08 has come and gone. This kind of week packed with interesting events with a focus on connecting with God and each other was unusual. I had never been involved in anything like it and have never experienced a week where so many people got involved and worked together to ensure the real success of the various activities. The names would be far too numerous to mention but a very big thank you to the organising committee and all who gave their time in very generous ways to ensure the success of each event.

The fact that well over 100 people were involved at various levels in planning and running events was in itself a wonderful achievement and testimony to the skill and leadership of those who achieved that level of involvement from so many. It's also testimony to the wonderful community we have in this area. I believe that as time goes by we will benefit from many of the very positive aspects of the week.



I believe we never stop learning as we go through life and that is true when it comes to matters of faith. Some of our parishioners have participated in **ALPHA**, a course designed to give us a better understanding of the Christian faith. I hope that we can run a short **ALPHA** course in the Spring of 2009. More immediately though we invite anyone who is interested, to come to an informal gathering where the **ALPHA** course will be introduced and explained. This meeting is on **Monday 1st December** in The Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy at 8.00pm. There will be a light supper and an opportunity for discussion as well as a short presentation of what **ALPHA** is all about.

Best wishes to the Venerable Edgar Swann on his retirement after Christmas and congratulations to Canon Ricky Rountree on his appointment as the new Archdeacon. May God be with them both in their new situations.

The whole community salutes Canon Bob!

We are delighted that the sterling work that Canon Bob Jennings has done for this community has been publicly recognised. Bob has been given the prestigious honour and title of Community Person of the Year 2008 at an award ceremony held on Saturday 22nd November in Santry. The award was presented by the Minister for Finance Brian Lenihan and Bob was accompanied at the ceremony by members of Newcastle Residents Association who nominated him for the award. Former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern was a fellow award recipient on the night.

We join in expressing heartiest congratulations to Bob and are delighted that his dedicated work in this community has been appropriately recognised.



FAMILY NOTICES

Baptism; On Sunday 26th October in Newcastle Parish Church, **Catherine Aoife** daughter of Mary and Paul O'Neill, Seacourt, Newcastle.

We welcome Catherine to our community and pray that she will grow up to love and serve God in whose name she has been baptised.

Wedding; Congratulations to **Kieran Patrick McNabb** and **Angela May Fox**, Upper Calary, Bray. Kieran and Angela were married in Newcastle Parish church on 25th October. We wish them every happiness in their marriage and home in Calary.

Internment; **Joan Mary Cowan** (nee Valentine) and **Michael Cowan**, late of Lucan, Co.



Dublin. The cremated remains of Joan and Michael were interred in The Garden of Remembrance at Newcastle Church on 21 November 2008. Michael passed away in 1998 but his cremated remains were interred with those of his wife Joan following a short service in the Parish church. The main funeral service was held in Lucan Parish Church. Our thoughts, sympathy and prayers are with the Valentine family circle and in particular with Connie, Joan's sister-in-law.

We send our sympathy also to **Dick Kerrigan** on the death of his wife whose funeral took place last week.

St. Francis' National School

Would any parishioners with pre-school children please ensure that they have filled in and returned an **Intention to Apply form** if they wish their children to attend St. Francis' N.S. in the future. Forms are available from the school office.

The school **Carol Service** will be held in Newcastle church on **Tuesday 22nd** December at 11.00 am. Family and friends are welcome to attend. School will close for the Christmas holidays after the service.

(Presuming that assembly will be held in church on Friday 30th January, tea and coffee will be available in the Rectory Cottage from 8.30 am for anyone waiting to attend the service).

Carol Services

Newcastle Hospital Carol Service will be on Sunday 14th at 3.00pm.

Calary Carol Service will take place on Friday 19th at 7.30pm. Tea and mince pies will be served in the Church Room after the service.

Contributions of mince pies would be appreciated!

Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy Carol Service will be on Sunday 21st at 7.00pm in Newcastle Parish Church.



Community Carol Singing

The community carol singing will take a different format this year. Instead of travelling around the Newcastle area in cars, **all members of the community** are invited to wrap up warmly and gather together in the middle of the village at 7.00pm on Monday 22nd to sing in aid of **St. Catherine's Services**. Singing will be led by the Rector and Father Belton and mince pies will be served afterwards.



Decoration of Churches for Christmas;

New volunteers to help decorate the churches would be very welcome in all three churches! Contributions of decorations would be much appreciated also.

Calary Church will be decorated on Thursday 18th from 10.30 am approx.

Newcastle Church will be decorated on Friday 19th from 10.00 am or if that time does not suit you some people will be decorating that evening.

St Matthew's Church will be decorated on Tuesday 23rd from 10.00 am.

Sunday School

The Sunday School children are putting on a **Nativity Play** on Sunday 21st at 11.00 am in Newcastle Church. Rehearsals have just started so if you want to be part of the action come along and join in! There will be a final rehearsal followed by a Christmas craft session on Saturday 20th from 2.00 to 4.00 pm.

The Christmas Party this year will be on Saturday 13th in St. Francis' School Hall from 3.00 to 5.00 pm. and you never know who might pop in! (Play rehearsal beforehand 2.00 - 3.00 pm)



Coffee in the Cottage

Coffee mornings in the Rectory Cottage will continue every Tuesday until Tuesday 16th. There will be none during Christmas week but everyone is very welcome on Tuesday 30th and every Tuesday after that from 10.30 to 12.30. All ages welcome!

Thank you very much to **Philip Roe** for the great job he has done on the entrance to the Rectory Cottage and to **Niall Cullen** for donating the filling.

Tuesday Club

At the November Meeting of the Tuesday Club we were entertained by the Rector with his 'squeeze box', by Mavis from the 'Connect' team, assisted by Lindsay, with handcrafts and by Roger who gave a short talk in his series of bringing home the Christian message. Everyone enjoyed the tea and chat as usual.

On **December 9th** we will have our Christmas gathering at 2.30pm. in the McLean Room when everyone is asked to bring a small (not exceeding €5 in value) gift for Santa's Sack. There will be some harmless entertainment and if anyone has a 'party piece' they would be prepared to share, it would be appreciated.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on **January 13th**, again in the McLean Room when we hope to have a speaker and film of travel in sunnier climes to help us remember what sunshine looks like.



Parent and Toddler Group

The P&T group will continue to meet every Monday in the Rectory Cottage from 10.30 until 12.30 right up to Monday 22nd when Father Christmas has very kindly promised to call in and visit us! Maybe we'll have a party!!

After that the next meeting will be on Monday 12th January after the school has re-opened. As usual anyone with a baby or preschool child is welcome to join us for tea, chat and play.



Leisurely Lunches

All those of a more mature age(!) are invited to the next lunch in the Rectory Cottage on Thursday 18th from 12.30 pm. As it will be Christmas we are pulling out all the stops so it would be helpful if you could let us know if you intend to come so that we know roughly how ~~many bottles of sherry~~...sorry, I mean how much food and crackers we need!

The January lunch will be on Thursday 15th. We would love to have your company on either occasion! (There is a small charge of €5 to cover costs)

If you need a lift to either the coffee mornings or to lunch please don't hesitate to contact the Rector 087 9480317, Clodagh 086 8558886 or Karen 087 2866889.

Tea and Toast Fridays

The Rectory Cottage is open for tea and toast between 1.20pm and 2.30pm every Friday up until 19th December and then again from Friday 9th January. Everyone is welcome but in particular those who collect infants from school and have to return later for older children might like to spend the time together in the cottage. Please note the **No Shoes** policy in the playroom and there is a small charge of €2 per family to cover costs.



Christmas Charity Envelopes:

An envelope is enclosed for your donation to a charity of your choice. We know things are tight this Christmas with the economic situation but this means things are even tighter for those whom we support through the envelopes. Please remember those not so fortunate at home and abroad this Christmas. It would be appreciated if the envelopes would be returned by Sunday 14th so that the money can be distributed to the various charities before Christmas.

REMINDERS

Christmas cards in aid of Calary Parish (as per front cover) are available from Ethni Seymour, June Roe or info@newcastleparish.org.

Christmas cards in aid of St. Francis' N.S. are available from any member of the P.A.

A pair of high heels and a top were left behind by models at the **Fashion Show** in the Parkview. If you think either might belong to you please contact Karen at 087 2866889.

Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy Select Vestry meeting on Monday 15th December at 8pm in the McLean Room.

It would be appreciated if the **Sustentation envelopes** which went out with PINS last month were returned as soon as possible.

A rota for cleaning Newcastle Church in 2009 will be put up in the porch if any volunteers would like to put their name down.

PINS 2009

To avoid the waste of printing unwanted copies of PINS, if it does not suit you to collect your copy from church would you please choose one of the following:

- To have it posted to you; please forward €5.00 (to cover postage) to;
Clodagh Jennings, 66 Seacourt, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow
- Nominate someone, who attends church regularly, who would be willing to collect it on your behalf.
- If you no longer wish to receive PINS just drop me a short note to cancel it.
- PINS is now available to view online every month at www.newcastleparish.org



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

First Responders in the Newcastle Area are currently seeking new volunteers.

You must be over 18 years and a car owner. Full training (weekend course) will be given. The First Responders share a rota and attend emergency calls in Newcastle within a 3 mile radius. Please contact Declan Kinsella at 086-1905391.

North Wicklow Country Market is held in Newcastle Community Centre every Saturday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. There you will find cakes, biscuits, delicatessen fare, vegetables, eggs, plants, flowers, jewellery and pictures, all produced locally. At this time of year, there are lots of lovely Christmas goodies available.

The Lodge Art Group Exhibition will be held on Thursday the 11th of December at 8pm in the Greystones Golf Club house in aid of St Catherine's Special School. All welcome and for information contact Siobhan at 086 8121423. Exhibition also open to the public on Friday the 12th of December.

