



# PARISH INFORMATION NEWS SHEET

Parish of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy with Calary



## DECEMBER 2021

## JANUARY 2022



Rector:

Rev Ross Styles  
087-9892941

Layreader:

Caroline Tindal  
086-2553001

Parish Administrator:

Karen Reynolds  
087-2866889

Parish Office:

Open Mon - Fri  
01-2819300

Email: [nandnparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:nandnparishoffice@gmail.com)

Parish Websites:

[www.newcastleparish.org](http://www.newcastleparish.org)  
[www.newtownmountkennedyparish.org](http://www.newtownmountkennedyparish.org)  
[www.calaryparish.org](http://www.calaryparish.org)

## From the Rector

Dear friends,

We are entering the season of Advent, a season of hope and expectation. Each Sunday in Advent, we light a candle on our Advent wreaths, flickering and shining their light into our churches and homes. As the evenings grow shorter, we can see the candles clearly. They appear brighter and more distinct to us the darker it becomes, and as nighttime falls, they appear quite brilliant in the inky surroundings, little beacons of light in a sea of darkness. And the light from a single candle can be seen from a great distance in total darkness. As I have mentioned before at a family service, the human eye could detect the flicker of a candle in total darkness, with a direct line of sight, at 46km away, or 30 miles. It seems an impossible task for a tiny little flame to emit light that can be seen from that distance but it can. And the strange thing is that that little beam of light can be seen further the darker the world around it is. Truly light can cut through darkness, the light only becomes stronger the darker it gets.

In our day to day lives, particularly with the current news, it is all too easy to become overwhelmed with our worries and concerns. For over twenty months, Covid-19 has shaken our routines and our lives. Sadly this Christmas may not show a return to 'normal' that we had hoped for. It is with a heavy heart that we have had to cancel Sunday Club, the Nativity, youth club, confirmation classes and many other parish social activities but we must be sensible, follow guidance and keep our community safe.

It is at these times that our world can appear to be an uncertain place. Yet we are not alone. If a small bulb or a candle can shine far out into the darkness, how much further can the light of Jesus' love shine? As the mirrors of a lighthouse amplify and direct light into the darkness, so too can we take that light that Jesus brings to us and reflect it in how we live our lives and in how we share our lives with others, in how we treat others.

In this season of Advent, my first in these parishes, we progress in expectation to the joy of Christmas! Let us reflect that light, that love and that joy into all aspects of our lives and our community. Jesus is the bearer of that light, his love is there for all, it is up to us to open the door and let it shine into our lives, into our world. Let us not lose hope.

Fiona, Ben, Ava and I would like to wish you all a blessed and a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

May the light of the Christ Child fill you with joy and peace.

God bless,  
Ross

## Advent Study

Parish Centre

Tuesdays 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> December at 8pm

Everyone very welcome to attend



**All events in PINS are subject to Covid restrictions**



# *Christmas Services*



## *Sunday 19th December*

**19.30      Newcastle      Carol Service**

## *Wednesday 22nd December*

**19.30      Calary      Candlelight Carol Service**

## *Christmas Eve*

**23.30      Newcastle      Holy Communion**

## *Christmas Day*

**09.30      Calary      Holy Communion**

**10.45      St Matthew's      Holy Communion**

**12.00      Newcastle      Family Praise**

*Unfortunately, due to the current situation with Covid,  
there will be no carol singing at Newcastle Hospital  
and the children's Nativity play has been cancelled.*







**DON'T FORGET TO BRING  
YOUR LANTERNS TO THE  
HOLY COMMUNION  
SERVICE  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE  
IN NEWCASTLE CHURCH  
TO LIGHT YOUR  
CANDLES FROM  
THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE**



**Newcastle: Thursday 16th December.  
Church open from 10am. All help welcome.**  
**St Matthew's: Wednesday 15th December.**  
**Why not come to Holy Communion and  
stay to decorate?**

## **Christmas Charities**

This year we are supporting three  
charities in Newcastle and  
Newtownmountkenedy Parish:

Tiglin  
Peter McVerry Trust  
Protestant Aid



*Please specify if you want your donation to go to a particular one.*



## Christmas Outing

No outing in December due to current Covid conditions but we hope to organise something exciting for the New Year when things settle down. Watch this space.

## **NEW YEAR LUNCH**

**AT THE PARISH CENTRE**



**This year our Christmas Lunch  
is a New Year Lunch!**

**Thursday 20th January 2022**

**€10 per head**

**Book your place with Karen for  
an afternoon of food, festivity and fun**

## **Newcastle and Newtown Readers**

Thank you to everyone who kindly takes a turn to read the lessons every Sunday. We have a good number of "volunteers" so each person only has to read two or three times a year.

It is lovely to hear a different voice making up part of the weekly services. Thanks to you all and wishing you all a very Happy Christmas. Muriel



# CALARY NEWS



## **Carol Service**

Calary's Candlelight Carol Service will take place at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 22 December. If COVID numbers improve it will be in the church, otherwise it will be held outside, weather permitting – it could be like a winter wonderland in Calary with Carols around a fire pit, mulled wine, mince pies. Everyone is welcome to this wonderful event.

## **Concerts Online**

Music in Calary released the 3rd in the series of concerts via YouTube during November. These performances were recorded during the summer when there was a grand piano in Calary Church. All of these concerts have proved extremely popular and the committee intends to release further concerts on a monthly basis during the winter and spring.

The 3rd concert is "Titus et Berenice" by Rita Strohl, performed by Annette Cleary (cello), Réamonn Keary (piano) and Barry McGovern (narrator)

If you would like the link to this concert or information and links to the previous 2 performances, please email [derekneilson@eircom.net](mailto:derekneilson@eircom.net)

## **Communion Lunch Cancelled**

Unfortunately, the annual communion lunch is not going ahead this year because of the risk of spreading COVID

## **The Calary Star**

The Star is up on the Bell tower for the 2nd year now. It will be lit on Advent Sunday as a reminder of those who have passed away in Ireland due to Covid and as a thank you to front line workers who are still, nearly two years on, putting themselves and their families at great risk to help others. Take a drive past the church, it will be a wonderful sight.

## **Memorial Service**

A special service was held in Calary Church before a large congregation on Sunday 31 October to remember those who died for any reason during the past 2 years. Doves with the names of those who died were attached to the Memorial Tree.

## **Sunday School**

Calary Sunday School takes place in the Church Room each Sunday, except when there is a Family Service.



## On the road towards Roundwood.....

I see a star.

A star high up in the trees.....  
along the road near Calary.

A star so bright ..... it lights up  
the darkness that has enveloped  
us these past months.

A star high up on the church that is the special sacred  
place – Calary Church.

A Star of Hope.

Hope that tomorrow will bring new light. A light  
shining in the darkness – and the darkness  
comprehended it not.

This Star is a symbol of our renewed hope that 2022  
will bring a new dawn. A new hope for a new year. A  
star is born tonight over Calary.

But we must remember.

We must remember all who have fallen victim to the  
darkness. This star is a reminder.

....A reminder that there is a vacant place at over 8000  
tables this Christmas on this island.....because of  
Covid.

.....A reminder that we are the lucky ones. We have  
escaped. We must still try to keep each other safe.  
But there are hundreds of thousands across the world  
who have not escaped.



.....A reminder that the sadness and loss will take years to heal.

We must remember and pay tribute to our Healthcare workers. The doctors. The nurses. The staff in hospitals and care homes. All those on the frontline who have worked tirelessly, putting their own lives and the lives of their families at risk so we can be assured..... there is help. Help in our hospitals and Care homes. Compassion for those who need it.

Dear God, we thank you for the science that has developed the vaccine.....the hope that we are all clinging to for our futures. We thank you that you have spared us.

A Star shone brightly over Bethlehem the night that Jesus was born to his earthly life.

A Star shines brightly over Calary this Christmas time to remind us that you gave your only begotten Son to redeem us.



*Photo taken by Eve Holmes of the Memory Tree at the Memorial Service in Calary*

# Clubs and Organisations

## Junior Table Tennis

**Every Monday**

**7—8pm**

**Main Hall, Parish Centre**

*(Suspended at present)*

## Table Tennis

This lively club meets every Monday evening at 8pm in the Main Hall at the Parish Centre.

All welcome to join.



**Fridays at 7.30pm**

**in the Parish Centre**

*(Suspended at present)*

## Bowls Club

The Bowls Club meets on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Main Hall at the Parish Centre.

Everyone welcome



## Sunday Club

*(Suspended at present)*

## Parish Choir

The Parish Choir is busy rehearsing for upcoming special services. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings from 8pm in the Parish Centre.

New members very welcome.

## Time Out

The prayer group continues to meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 8pm in the Parish Centre.

**Our popular children's clubs are suspended at the moment due to the prevailing Covid situation. Hopefully these clubs can re-start in the New Year.**

## **PINS**

If you would like to receive PINS by post please forward €10 to the Parish Office. Remember you can receive PINS by email or check it on the parish website if you are not in a position to pick up a hard copy of the newsletter.

### **Monthly Church Review**

As usual Pauline will be collecting the annual subscriptions in January for 2022's monthly Church Review. If you would like to be included for next year's issues please contact Pauline at 087-9535981

Please send any items or photographs for inclusion in February PINS to: [nandnparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:nandnparishoffice@gmail.com)

## **Coffee**

We continue to meet in the Sitting Room at the Parish Centre every Tuesday morning from 10.30am for tea/coffee, treats and chat. Everyone welcome.

No coffee on Tuesdays 28th December and 4th January.

### **Monthly Church Envelopes**

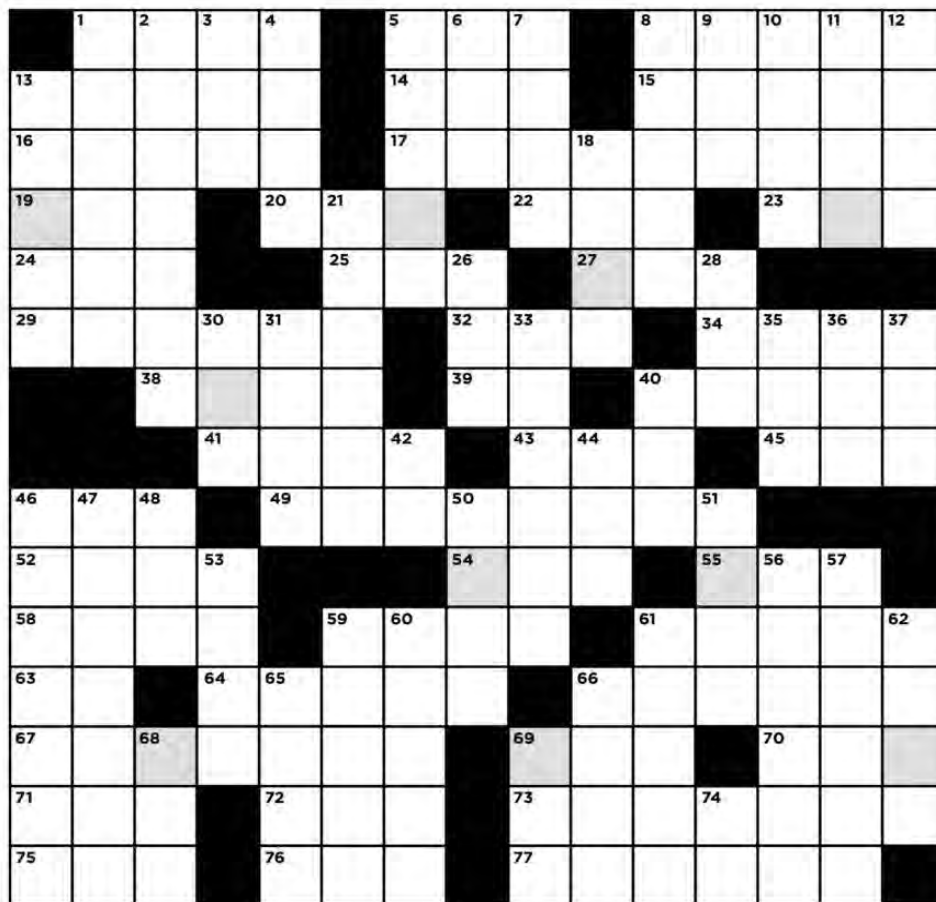
If you would like to join the monthly envelope scheme for your giving in church please contact Jean Harris at 085-7738218. Offerings given in this way can be recorded (in confidence) and are eligible for a tax rebate which the Parish can claim.

### **From the Treasurer**

I would like to thank all those parishioners who have given to the Parish so faithfully and generously over the past year. Your help has ensured that our bills are paid and the Parish can continue to offer all the church services, clubs, and facilities which we and our children all enjoy so much. The pattern of giving has changed radically during recent times, with many using bank transfer. Can I ask that those who do not give on a regular basis, and who can afford to do so, consider giving the year end sustentation (another word for upkeep) at this time. Any amount will be gratefully received. Many thanks, Karen R



# CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

- 1 Outdoor house feature
- 5 "Dancing With \_\_\_ Stars"
- 8 Word after great or study (plural)
- 13 Connection to the thing that comes next
- 14 Brexit continent, for short
- 15 Useful Scrabble letters
- 16 Second of the five stages of grief
- 17 Animals where the males get pregnant
- 19 Word after state or no
- 20 Mardi Gras city, informally
- 22 How's it going?, in slang
- 23 Drag queen lingo for doing something great
- 24 With an s, exclusive Italian restaurant
- 25 Blog feed inits.
- 27 \_\_\_ Christmas, I gave you my heart
- 29 "That's right!"
- 32 Pompous idiot
- 34 Leave (out)
- 38 Foal : horse :: cria : \_\_\_
- 39 Govt. city
- 40 AOL communication
- 41 Word after north or south

- 43 \_\_\_ doll, old-timey Christmas present
- 45 What you post on Insta
- 46 \_\_\_-state area
- 49 Things you've collected
- 52 *Hamilton* songs
- 54 CA cops
- 55 Produced a 40-down
- 58 Door-to-door makeup giant
- 59 Sealed document
- 61 Non-alcoholic New Years Eve drink
- 63 Monty Python Knights of \_\_\_
- 64 He's known for his belt
- 66 Teeny tiny
- 67 Visitors' sleeping arrangements
- 69 Lyrics referenced in this puzzle
- 70 Character to be played by Beyonce in 2019
- 71 What the <3 emoji might be used to convey, in txts
- 72 College students might end up with this
- 73 Carrot alternative
- 75 It is fancy?
- 76 "\_\_\_ Grinch Who Stole Christmas"
- 77 One of four every year

## DOWN

- 1 First of the five stages of grief
- 2 Chinese food staple
- 3 Tool for pool
- 4 Adjust your typography
- 5 Futuristic cars
- 6 Cranberry or emerald, e.g.
- 7 Historical time frames
- 8 Shoot some \_\_\_
- 9 Bubble wrap content
- 10 Lad's opposite
- 11 Futurama pilot
- 12 YouTube CEO's nickname, possibly (alt. spelling)
- 13 Surfin' \_\_\_, Beach Boys hit
- 18 Grass skirt dances
- 21 Harvard \_\_\_, Rory Gilmore's college decision
- 26 Winter condition with an appropriate acronym
- 28 Cruise or Riddle
- 30 Word before happy or stick
- 31 Run \_\_\_
- 33 Go off-\_\_\_ (improvise)
- 35 What's often in the front cover of fantasy books
- 36 Jr.'s son
- 37 *Say Yes to the Dress* channel
- 40 It's often broken in the morning
- 42 B+ on your O.W.L.s
- 44 Conjunction junction subject
- 46 Subway, streetcar, bus, etc.
- 47 Dish to order at 24-across
- 48 Tech. start-up's big event
- 50 Word before Jane or White T's
- 51 What dragons are at the end of fairy tales
- 53 One looking down their nose
- 56 "I'm not sure," in lazy teenager speak
- 57 Hold in custody
- 59 4A-4E, in shoes
- 60 Famous riveter
- 61 "1, 2 Step" singer
- 62 Do 69-down again
- 65 No \_\_\_ for the wicked
- 66 Female's counterpart, if you made a typo
- 68 Elves, in poetry
- 69 Units during running or swimming practice
- 74 Snake's warning





# Christmas Crossword



## ACROSS

1. Pumpkin or mincemeat
3. Santa's ride
6. Celebration
8. Newborn
9. Northpole crew
13. Word of praise
14. Words on a Christmas card
17. It's opened on Christmas

## DOWN

1. Alternative word to 17 across
2. Christmas drink
4. Christmas dinner centerpiece
5. Dec. holiday
7. Christmas warmer
8. "Jingle \_\_\_\_\_"
10. Christmas tree
11. O. Henry's "The Gift of the \_\_\_\_"
12. What carolers do
15. French Christmas.
16. Snow glider



Mary O'Neill wants to get us all in the Christmas spirit. She has sent us these Christmas jokes. Thanks Mary! (I think...)

What carol do you hear in the desert?  
O Camel ye faithful.

What is a parent's favourite carol?  
Silent Night.

What is a child's favourite king at Christmas?  
A stoc-king.

How did Mary and Joseph know Jesus' weight when he was born?  
There was a weigh in a manger.

What key do you need for the Nativity?  
A don-key.

What was the innkeeper's favourite team?  
Manger-ster United.

What is different about the Christmas alphabet?  
There's no-el.

What did Adam say on the 24th?  
It's Christmas, Eve.

What do you call a reindeer with one eye above the other?  
Isiah.

Knock, knock.  
Who's there?  
Pizza.  
Pizza who?  
Pizza on earth and goodwill to man.



# SERVICES IN JANUARY

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
<b>Sunday 2nd</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	HC	Eph. 1:3-14 Psalm 147: 13-21 John 1: 1-9, 10-18
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	HC	
	Newcastle	12.00	RS	HC	
<b>Sunday 9th</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	MP	Acts 8: 14-17 Psalm 29 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	MP	
	Newcastle	12.00	RS	MP	
<b>Sunday 16th</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	FS	1 Cor. 12:1-11 Psalm 36: 5-10 John 2: 1-11
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	FS	
	Newcastle	12.00	RS	FS	
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	MP	1 Cor. 12: 12-31 Psalm 19 Luke 4: 14-21
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	MP	
	Newcastle	12.00	RS	MP	
<b>Sunday 30th</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	Healing Service in all 3 churches	1 Cor. 13: 1-13 Psalm 48 Luke 2: 22-40
	St \Matthew's	10.45	RS		
	Newcastle	12.00	RS		



**Holy Communion is celebrated every  
Wednesday, with prayer for the sick,  
at 10.30am in St Matthew's**

**Everyone is welcome to tea/coffee in the  
McLean Room after all services at St Matthew's**

# SERVICES IN DECEMBER

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
<b>Sunday 5th</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	HC	Phil. 1: 3-11 Benedictus
	Newcastle	12.00	RS	HC	Luke 3: 1-6
<b>Sunday 12th</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	MP	Phil. 4: 4-7 Song of Isaiah Luke 3: 7-18
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	MP	
	Newcastle	12.00	RS	MP	
<b>Sunday 19th</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	MP	Hebrews 10: 5-10 Magnificat Luke 1: 39-45
	Newcastle	19.30	RS	Carols	
<b>Wed 22nd</b>	Calary	19.30	RS	Carols	
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	Newcastle	23.30	RS	HC	
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Calary	9.30	RS	HC	
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	HC	
	Newcastle	12.00	RS	FS	
<b>Sunday 26th</b>	St Matthew's	11.00	CT	MP	



**Holy Communion is celebrated every  
Wednesday, with prayer for the sick,  
at 10.30am in St Matthew's**

**Everyone is welcome to tea/coffee in the  
McLean Room after all services at St Matthew's**