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# PARISH INFORMATION NEWS SHEET

Parish of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy with Calary



## DECEMBER 2024

## JANUARY 2025



Rector:

Archdeacon Ross Styles

087-9892941

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

Diocesan Lay Minister:

Caroline Tindal

086-2553001

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085-1640133

01-2819300

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

Open Monday to Friday

Parish Websites:

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

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

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

Dear friends,

As I sit and write this, Advent Sunday is not far away, a time of year I really love. Advent Sunday is the first Sunday in December this year and this Advent we are holding three Advent reflections, at 8pm in the Parish Centre, on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, where we will explore scripture through the light of Advent, with accompanying refreshments!

We are having a Christmas Communion Service in Calary, followed by lunch in the church room, on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30 am. This is an opportunity to attend a Communion Service before Christmas and to bring along anyone who may not always be able to come to church on Sunday mornings with a social element of a festive lunch afterwards!

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, at 7pm, we are starting guitar lessons in the Parish Centre. These lessons will be led by Mark Leeson. The lessons are aimed at young people and they will be free of charge. Our hope is that through these music lessons we will develop and nurture a group of musicians, who can play at our monthly youth services which will return early in the new year. For more information, please do contact me!

Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> marks a sad day in the parish, as it will be Karen's last day as Parish Administrator. Karen's knowledge and efficiency has kept the Parish Office, CastleKidz and Parish Centre on an even keel for many years and I would like to thank her on behalf of the parish for all that she has done, but also personally for all that she has done for me over the last nearly four years! Thank you!! You will be sorely missed! We wish you every blessing in your retirement and we are relieved to hear that (secret) play writing continues for our next spring performance!

It is always wonderful to gather as a community to celebrate this special time of the year. At 5pm on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, our Community Crib, which was built by our Junior Youth Club, is returning to Newcastle village, with community carol singing, treats and hot chocolate! On December 15<sup>th</sup>, we will have a united service in St. Matthew's church at 11am for the Christmas Story, with Carols, when we narrate the story of Christmas! We will have our candlelight carol services - in Calary on Friday December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm and in Newcastle on Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm both followed by festive refreshments. All are warmly welcome!

Many people find Christmas a difficult time, perhaps because of bereavement or illness or for many other personal reasons. On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, we will have a Quiet Christmas service in Calary church, at 9.30am. This is a quiet and reflective service. All are very welcome to attend.

Increasing numbers of families really struggle at this time of year, with all the financial pressures and rising costs of living. As in previous years, we are collecting festive and essential food items at the the back of St. Matthew's and Newcastle Church. This produce is donated to the Storehouse, in Crinken Church, who provide a fantastic facility to help the wider community. My thanks to Jane O' Herlihy for all that she does to coordinate our collection.

Senior Youth Club met on Sunday evening, 24<sup>th</sup> November. This year they are supporting a charity that provides the details for people in care homes who have no immediate family. We have been given the contact details for a man and a woman. We will be putting together a parcel for each of them, with cards and gifts. An Post then facilitates the posting of these parcels.

Advent is a season when we concentrate on the coming light of our world. As the days draw closer and the evenings get darker, the brighter a light shines. That light is the coming of our Lord. Advent is a season of faith, hope and new beginnings. On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November, two new journeys of faith began, as friends and family gathered in Newcastle church for the baptism of Mia and Caolan Smith. We wish them and their family every blessing as they begin their own journeys of faith.

In this season of Advent, may we progress in expectation to the joy of Christmas, the great gift that we receive in the birth of our saviour Christ, the light of the world. 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 and into our communities.

Fiona, Ben, Ava and I would like to wish you, and all whom you love, a blessed and a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year, with every blessing for 2025.

May the light of the Christ Child fill you with joy and peace.  
God bless,  
Ross

# *United all age Advent Communion Service*

Sunday 1st December, 11am Newcastle Church

With presentation to Karen on her retirement and refreshments following the service



## *Advent Reflections*

Join Ross, Deirdre and Caroline in the Parish Centre for discussion, reflection and refreshments.

WEDNESDAYS | 8PM

4th, 11th & 18th December

All warmly welcome!





**CALARY**

*Christmas*

**Communion  
Service and  
Lunch**

**Wednesday 11th  
December  
11:30am**

Phone Charlotte 086 8354394 or Ethni 086 8092211 to reserve a place on or before Sunday 8th December.

There is no charge but if you wish you may make a donation to "Fields of Life."



# The Christmas Story



All age Service

With Carols - Sunday 15th December at 11am  
St Matthew's Church



*Christmas  
Carols by Candlelight*

**Newcastle Church  
Sunday 22nd December  
7pm**

Followed by mulled wine and mince pies!

All warmly welcome!

Collection in aid of local charities



*Carols by  
Candlelight in  
Calary*

*Friday 20th December  
7:30pm*



*Followed by mulled-wine and mince pies  
All warmly Welcōme!*

*Collection in aid of local charities*



Parishes of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy with Calary

# O come, all ye faithful



## Christmas Services

Christmas Day

Christmas Eve

Holy Communion  
Newcastle Church  
11:15pm

Holy Communion  
Calary Church 9:30am

Holy Communion  
St. Matthew's 10:45am

All age Family Service  
Newcastle Church 12pm



## *Sunday Club*

8th December

# Gingerbread Christmas Party!

.....  
12noon, Newcastle Church

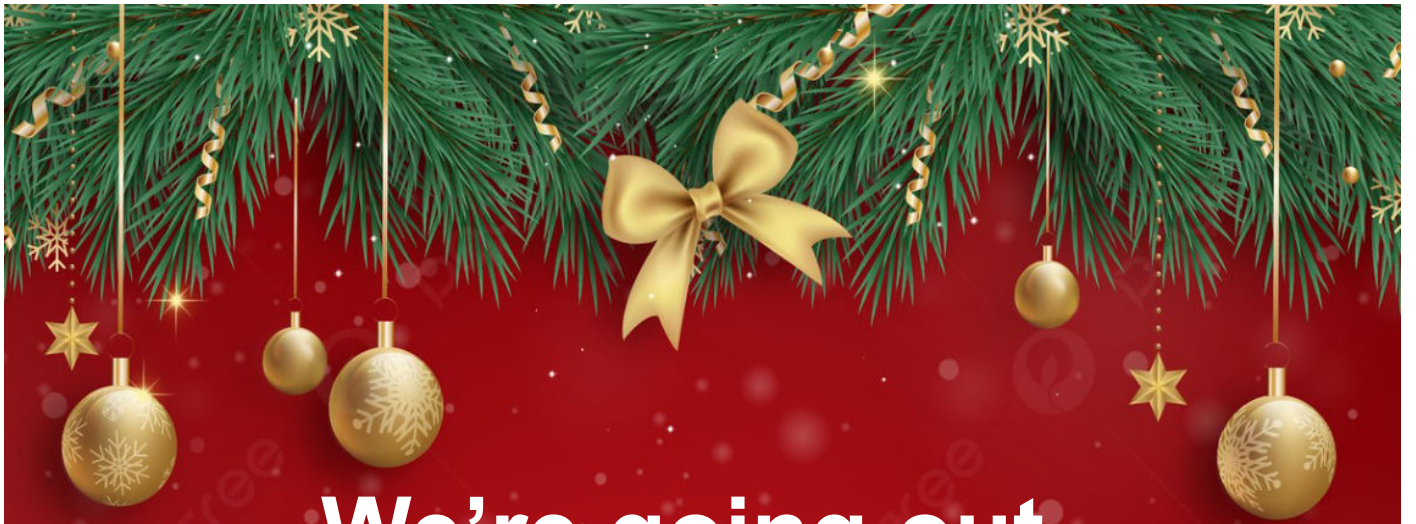


# COMMUNITY *carols*

SUNDAY 8TH DEC.

5pm

NEWCASTLE VILLAGE, YOUTH GROUP CRIB  
HOT CHOCOLATE & TREATS!  
ALL VERY WELCOME!



**We're going out**

**for**

**Christmas Lunch**

**at**

**The Glenview Hotel**

**Glen of the Downs**

**on**

**Tuesday 10th December**

**Book your place with Karen**

**087-2866889 ASAP!**



Youth Club

# Christmas



ICE SKATING

Friday 13th December

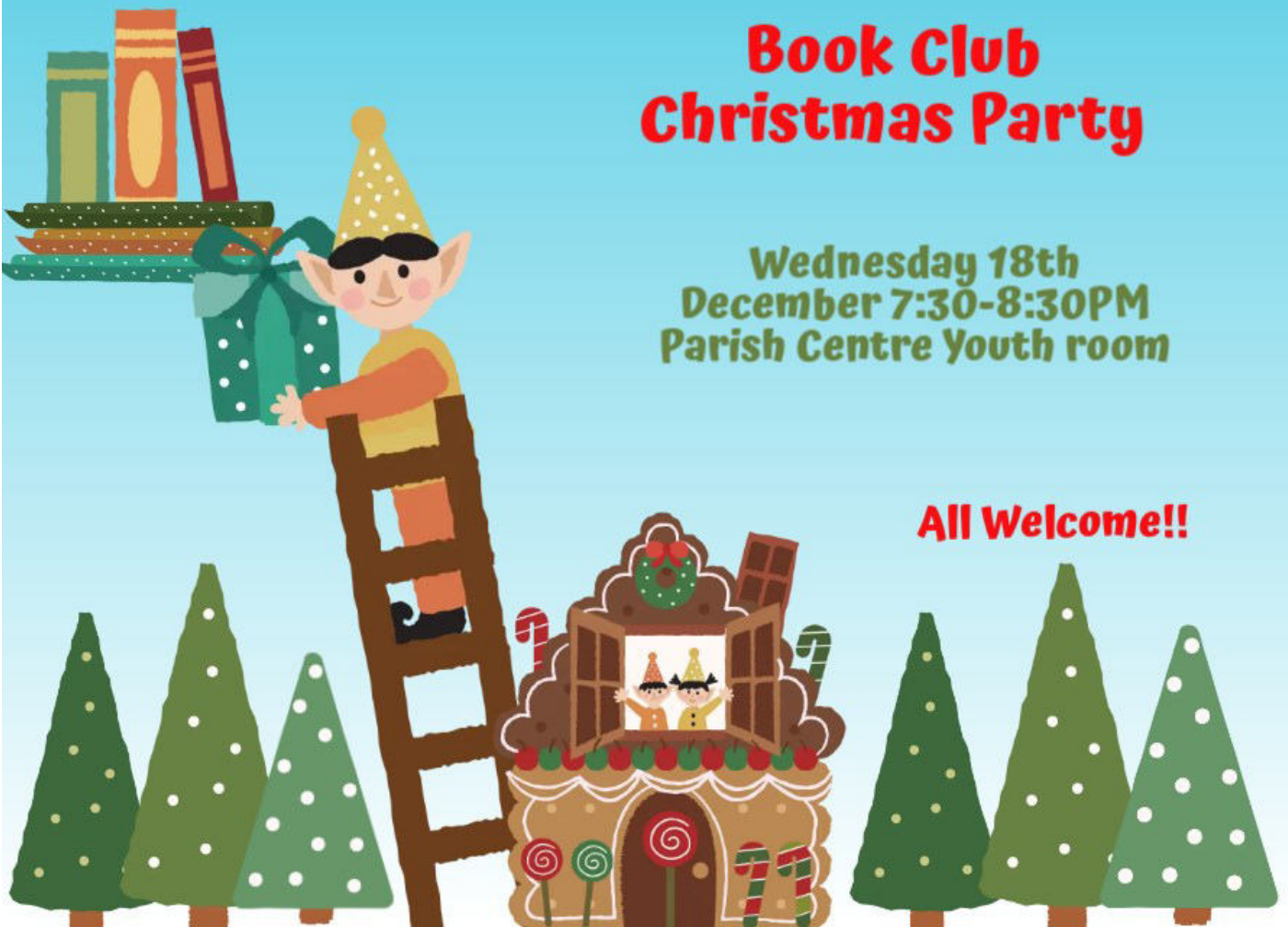
Avondale



# Book Club Christmas Party

Wednesday 18th  
December 7:30-8:30PM  
Parish Centre Youth room

All Welcome!!



## Book Club

Wednesday 18th December

Wednesday 15th January

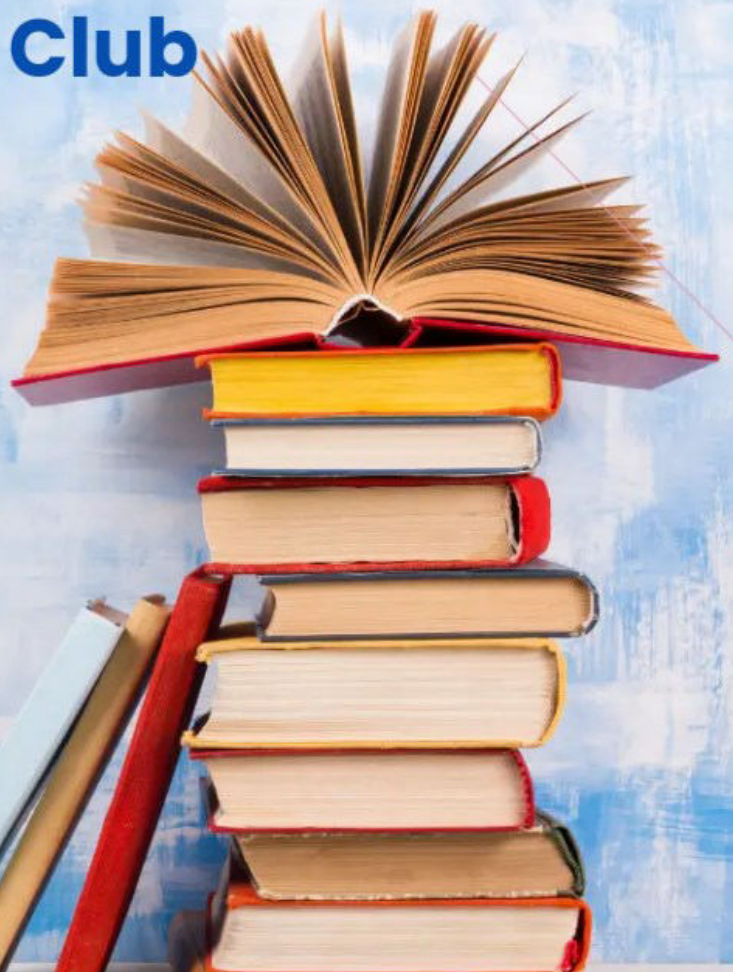
7:30-8:30pm

In the Parish Centre Youth Room

Refreshments provided!

*Looking forward to seeing you  
there!*

**From 1st year students upwards!**



# Senior YOUTH Group

Sunday 12th January @  
7pm - 8:30pm  
Parish Centre  
*From 1st year up!*

All warmly welcome!

## YOUTH CLUB Join us!

### Newcastle Parish Centre

December - Friday 13th  
January - Friday 10th & 24th  
7:30pm - 9PM



from 4th Class to 1st year

Junior Table Tennis  
Mondays 7 - 8pm  
at the Parish Centre.  
All aged 9 and over  
very welcome!



SUNDAY

CLUB

FUN

GAMES

CREATE

Sunday 8th December  
Sunday 19th January  
Newcastle Church at 12 noon!

Games

Treasure Hunts



Baking



Stories



Arts & Crafts

Come and join the fun!



# **Free Youth Guitar Lessons**

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**Intro. Night**

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**Wednesday 11th December**

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7pm-7:45pm

Newcastle Parish Centre



Parishes of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy  
with Calary



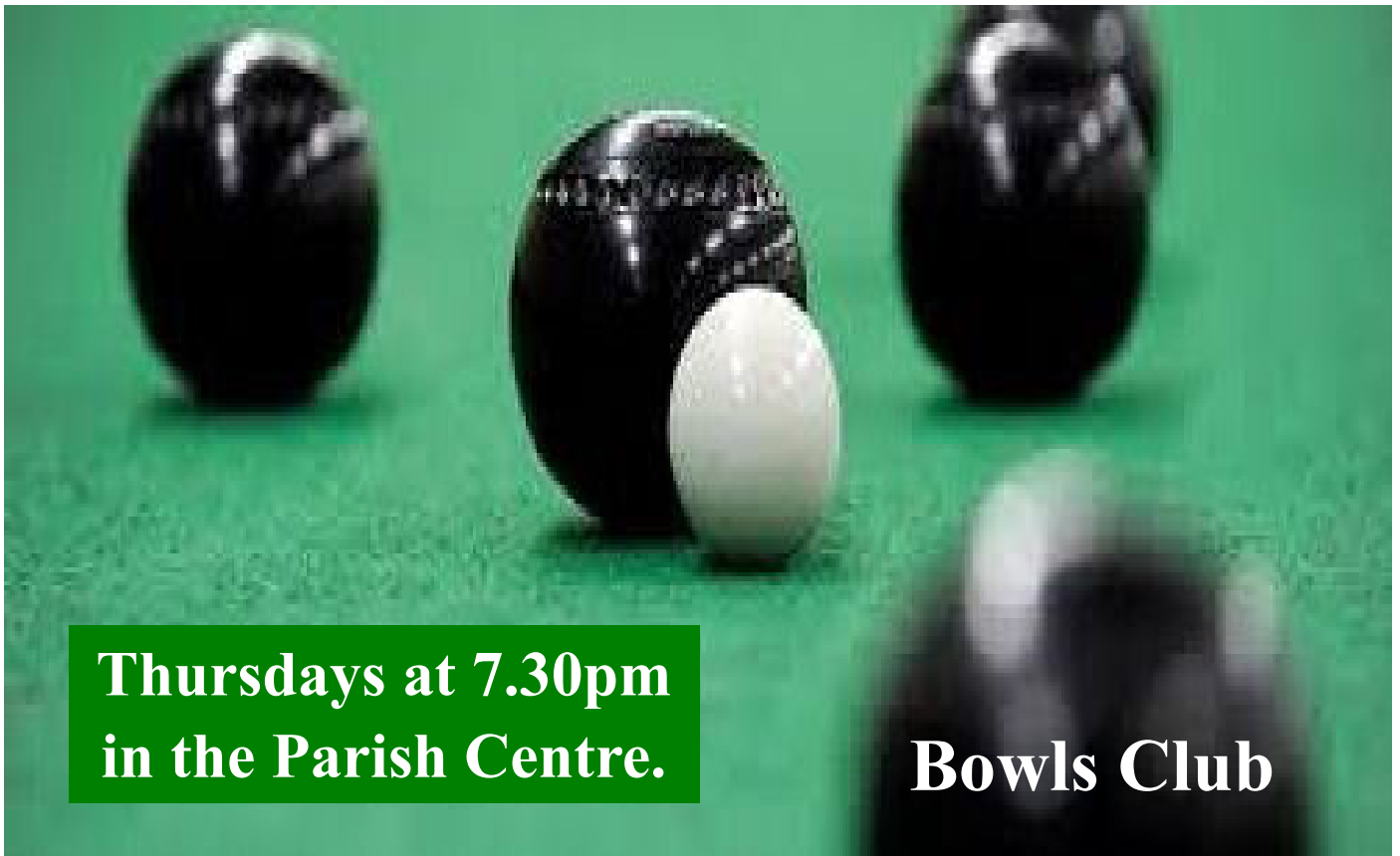
# YOUTH SERVICE

**Sunday**  
**January 26th**

**Newcastle Church**  
**6pm**

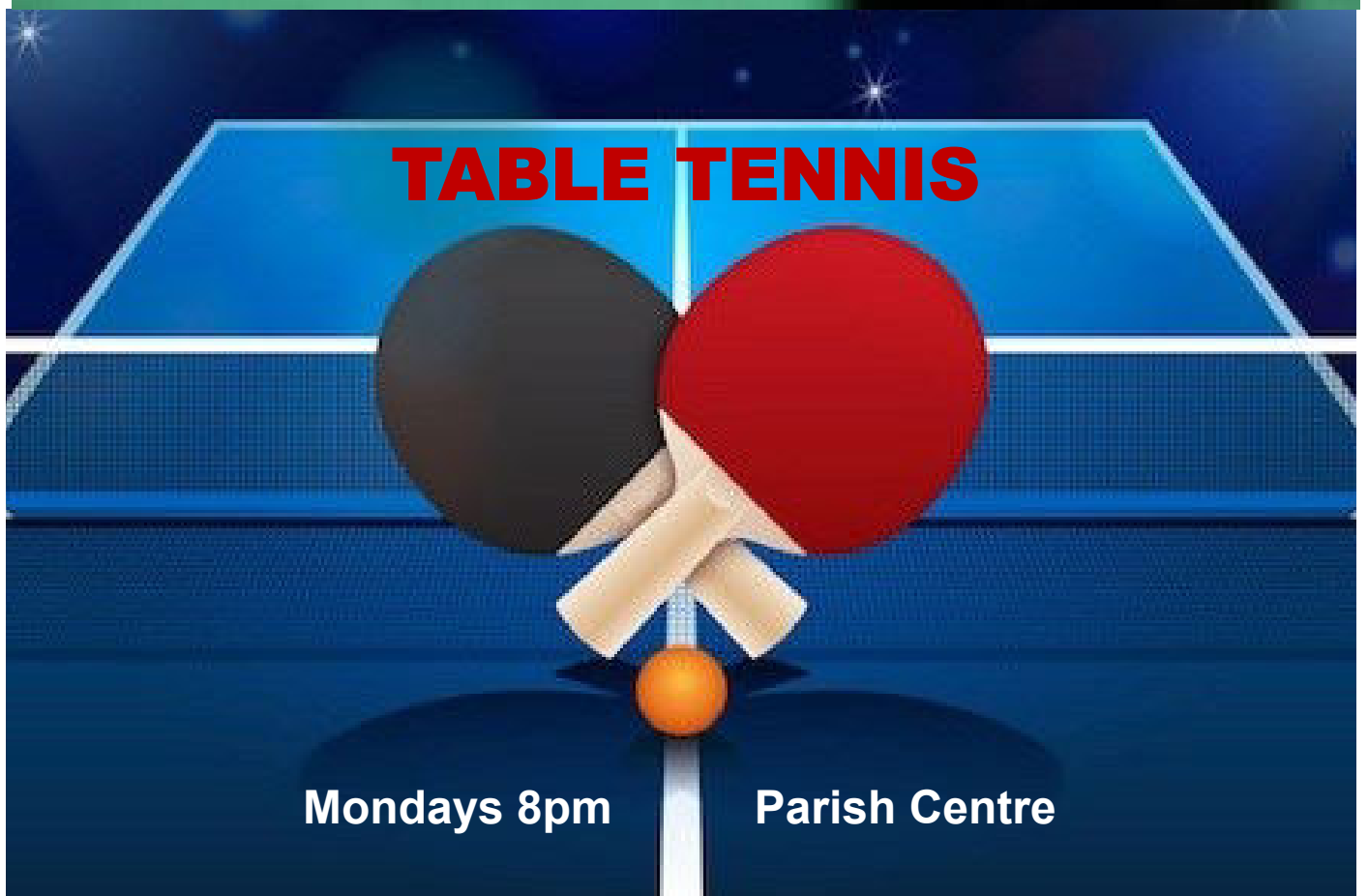
All warmly welcome!

# Clubs and Organisations



**Thursdays at 7.30pm  
in the Parish Centre.**

**Bowls Club**



**TABLE TENNIS**

**Mondays 8pm**

**Parish Centre**



Come join our friendly group.  
We sing for special events  
and at regular monthly  
Holy Communion services.  
ALTOS particularly welcome.  
Practice on Mondays at  
8pm in the Parish Centre.  
Contact Andy at 0861591873

## *Parish Choir*



**We're feeling 'Christmassy'  
in the Tearoom!  
Friday mornings  
in the Parish Centre  
10.30 am to 12.00 noon  
Everyone very welcome!**

**Come and enjoy a mince pie and a chat**

**RECTOR'S**  
*Breakfast*



**Tuesdays, from 8:45**

**During Termtime**

**in the Parish Centre**

All very welcome!

As you know, you can contact me by phone or e-mail at any time and we can meet anywhere for a chat or prayer but also I am in my office at the parish centre each Tuesday morning, please feel free to drop in and say hello!  
Ross

# CALARY NEWS

## Wednesday 11th December

Holy Communion for Christmas with lunch afterwards in the Church room. (See poster) Everyone welcome but please let us know if you are coming for lunch for catering purposes.

Phone Charlotte 086 8354394 or Ethni 086 8092211 to reserve a place on or before Sunday 8th December.

There is no charge but if you wish you may make a donation to "Fields of Life."

## Decorating the Church for Christmas.

Thursday 19th December from 10am. Join us and help make the Church festive looking for the Carol service and over the Christmas period.



## **PINS**

If you would like to receive PINS by post please forward €14 to the Parish Office. Remember you can receive PINS by email/whatsapp if you have given permission to be contacted in this way, or you can check it on the parish website if you are not in a position to pick up a hard copy

## **Monthly Church Review**

As usual Pauline will be collecting the annual subscriptions in January for the Church Review.

From 2025 the cost will be €45.

If you would like to be included for next year's issues please contact Pauline at 087-9535981

## **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.

Alternatively, if you do not wish to be included in the scheme for 2025 please let Jean know so that she can remove those envelopes from the order and save on costs to the Parish.



**Newcastle Church**  
**Thursday 19h December at 10am**

# Church Flowers

If you can help, please add your name  
to the rota in Newcastle Church!  
Thank you!



# CHURCH CLEANING

**If you can help, please add your name to the  
cleaning rota in Newcastle Church!  
Thank you!**



# November around the Parishes

## Junior Youth Club 1<sup>st</sup> Nov.



## Sunday Club 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.





# Junior Youth Club 15<sup>th</sup> Nov.



# Sunday Club 17th Nov.



## Goodbye from Karen

Dear everyone,

It is with a mixture of emotions that I retire as parish administrator. It has been the greatest honour and privilege to work in and serve the parish over many years and I will miss it enormously.

I have a kaleidoscope of memories which I will treasure. So many events over the years - Christmas fairs, summer fairs, balls, concerts, dinner dances, travelling suppers, BBQ's, fashion shows, summer parties, garden trails, flower festivals, car treasure hunts, and, of course, the theatre dinners. I loved organising them all.

There were day trips, lunches out, and trips away. I won't forget Prague, Waterford or Carrickfergus! We had carriage rides in Dublin, a boat ride on the Liffey, lunch on a ship, and a go on the big wheel. There were a lot of Christmas shopping trips and visits to the panto and several musicals.

Clodagh Jennings and I started the weekly coffee mornings, the monthly lunches and the breakfasts for parents before the monthly school assemblies in the church. Those events moved with us from the cottage to the Parish Centre, which I was lucky enough to be involved with from the very start on the building committee.

I was also lucky to be on the committee which launched Castle Kidz Childcare - it has grown to be an invaluable service for parents in the school and parish. I will miss the daily banter with the wonderful staff there.

And I did manage to squeeze in some administration!

Outside of the administrator role I got to be part of other aspects of parish life. I did my stint running both junior and senior youth clubs, helping in the creche during church services, ten years as a church warden, many years on the Select Vestry, a couple of years as Treasurer, and I have been to many synods, and selected a rector.! I have also had the privilege of being part of ministry in the parish, leading bible studies and organising family services.

So I feel blessed indeed and grateful for all the opportunities afforded to me. But one thing I won't be giving up, and that's writing plays, so I will see you all at the next one in 2025!

God bless,  
Karen

# We're looking for a Junior Choir Teacher

**Monday 2:30-3:30pm & One  
Sunday per month  
11:30am-12:45pm**

**Please  
contact Ross  
on 087  
9892941**

**During termtime**

**Competitive rates of pay**





# Childcare

## Playschool

**Open 9am to 12 noon**

**5 days a week**

**Full-time and Part-time places**

**ECCE and non-ECCE**

**Excellent facilities indoors and outdoors**

## Afterschool

**Open 1.20pm to 6pm**

**5 days a week**

**Full-time and Part-time**

**Limited places available**

**For information and booking:**

**Phone Joanne or Nicola at 087-7216929**

**Merry Christmas**

**from Joanne, Nicola, Irene and Mia**



# SERVICES IN DECEMBER

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
<b>Sunday 1st</b> <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	Calary Newcastle	9.30 11.00	RS	HC United All Age Family Communion	Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Psalm 25: 1-9 1 Thess. 3: 9-13 Luke 21: 25-36
<b>Sunday 8th</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	Calary St Matthew's Newcastle	9.30 10.45 12.00	RS	MP	Baruch 5: 1-9 Canticle: Benedictus Philippians 1: 3-11 Luke 3: 1-6
<b>Wednesday 11th</b>	Calary	11.30	RS	HC & Christmas Lunch	Isaiah 40: 25-31 Psalm 103: 8-13 Matthew 11: 28-30
<b>Sunday 15th</b> <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	Calary St Matthew's	9.30 11.00	RS	Service of the Word United All Age Service 'The Christmas Story'	Zephaniah 3: 14-20 Psalm 146: 4-10 Philippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 7-18
<b>Friday 20th</b>	Calary	19.30	RS	Carols by Candlelight	
<b>Sunday 22nd</b> <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	Calary Newcastle	9.30 19.00	RS	Quiet Christmas Service United Carols by Candlelight	Micah 5: 2-5a Canticle: Magnificat Hebrews 10: 5-10 Luke 1: 39-45
<b>Tuesday 24th</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i>	Newcastle	23.15	RS	HC	Isaiah 52: 7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1: 1-14 John 1: 1-14
<b>Wednesday 25th</b> <i>Christmas Day</i>	Calary St Matthew's Newcastle	9.30 10.45 12.00	RS	HC HC All Age Family Service	Isaiah 9: 2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-14
<b>Sunday 29th</b> <i>1st Sunday of Christmas</i>	Calary St Matthew's	9.30 11.00	CT	MP	1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3: 12-17 Luke 2: 41-52

# SERVICES IN JANUARY

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
<b>Sunday 5th</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Christmas</i>	Calary	9.30			Isaiah 60: 1-6 Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-15 Ephesians 3: 1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	HC	
	Newcastle	12.00			
<b>Sunday 12th</b> <i>1st Sunday after the Epiphany: Baptism of</i>	Calary	9.30			Isaiah 43: 1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8: 14-17 Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	MP	
	Newcastle	12.00			
<b>Sunday 19th</b> <i>2nd Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	Calary	9.30			Isaiah 62: 1-5 Psalm 36: 5-10 1 Cor. 12: 1-11 John 2: 1-11
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	Service of the Word	
	Newcastle	12.00			
<b>Sunday 26th</b> <i>3rd Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	Calary	9.30			Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Cor. 12: 12-31a Luke 4: 14-21
	St Matthew's	10.45	RS	Service of Wholeness and Healing	
	Newcastle	18.00		Youth Service	



**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 afterwards**

