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# **PARISH INFORMATION NEWS SHEET**

## **Parish of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy with Calary**

# **FEBRUARY 2014**



Rector:  
Rev William Bennett  
087-9480317

Layreaders:  
Caroline Tindal  
Michael Croly

Parish Administrator:  
Karen Reynolds  
087-2866889

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's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

“For whatever reason, God now reveals himself to the world, not through a pillar of smoke and fire, not even through the physical body of his son in Galilee, but through the mongrel collection that comprises my local church and every such gathering in God’s name”. *Quote by Philip Yarley*

Of course God speaks through his word as revealed in the scriptures but more and more in this part of the world, society is becoming far more pre-occupied by other things like business and sport, so that time spent reading and studying God’s word in a prayerful way is not a common habit fostered by many people.

The words of Jesus spoken on that hillside in Galilee to a massive crowd of people are still the words he would speak to you and me today- “You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world”!

What does it mean to be the light of the world? Jesus is the true light. Just as the sun gives physical light, he calls us to reflect that light, just like the moon and stars reflect the light of the sun. The big challenge is to consider how effective we are at being that light in the world.

Each of us has lots of opportunity, in many different ways, to reflect something of the love, light and life of God. In our parishes we try to provide certain opportunities for each of us to share in this task but the most important thing is to ensure that we are tuned in to reflect that light. We can wear ourselves out with all sorts of activities, ideas and inventions but if the ideas are not a reflection of what God wants then we are only depending on our human efforts and, in the long run, they will come to nothing.

Thank you to the Calary parishioners for taking up the baton of spreading the light by conducting worship on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January. I know this was really appreciated, not only by me, but by those who attended.

Things are moving on with the development of the Parish Centre. The erection of the steel structure which will be the main frame for the extension heralds a great advance in progress. We are really looking forward to having the key to open the centre for use in September. Please pray for the project and, more importantly, for wisdom and direction as decisions are made for the best use of the centre.

The whole community was greatly saddened at the untimely death of Simon Day from Newtownmountkennedy. The support and love for Willie, Linda, Luke and Wesley was, and is, a great reflection of the love of God through a caring community. Please do keep all those who suffer illness or bereavement in your thoughts and prayers, and especially the Day family on the tragic loss of Simon.

God Bless,  
William

## Calary Pies & Puds Supper

Join us for a Scrumptious Supper  
in the Church Room on  
Friday 31st Jan @ 8 pm  
Tickets €20

Bring your own bottle!

Charlotte  
086 835 4394

Claire  
087 272 1110

# CALARY NEWS

## **Joan Darker**

We would like to express our sympathy to the Keeley and Webster families on the death of Elizabeth and Noeleen's sister, Joan Darker.

## **Parish Supper**

A Parish Supper will be held in the Church Room at 8pm on Friday 31 January. This will be a very enjoyable evening and if you would like to join us, please ring Charlotte (086 8354394) or Claire (2818187).

## **Vestry Meeting**

There will be a Vestry Meeting at 7.30pm on Monday 3rd February.

## **Table Tennis**

This takes place every Thursday at 8pm in the Church Room. All experienced players and newcomers are welcome.

## **Crèche and Sunday School**

Sunday School continues every Sunday in the Church Room, apart from when there is a Family Service.

## **Carol Service**

The Calary Carol Service took place on Sunday 22 December. It was wonderful to hear Sister Mary give an update of the situation in Mukuru, Kenya and we would like to thank all our friends and neighbours who came and participated in the service. Thanks also to everyone who made the Church look so beautiful over Christmas.

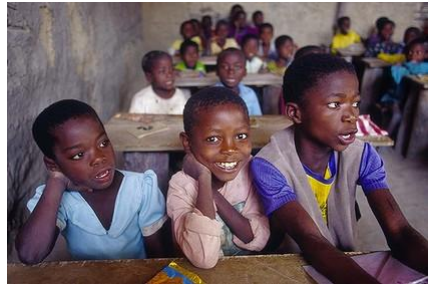
## **Special Communion**

We would like to thank all of those who joined us for the Special Communion Service and lunch on Wednesday 11 December.

## FIELDS OF LIFE (Newcastle)

As well as thanking Newcastle Sunday School for its very welcome donation, this is an overdue and heartfelt ‘Thank You’ to the many supporters—Past, Present and (hopefully) Future—of our student sponsorship scheme in Newcastle Parish. It is now 11 years since we first sponsored Fields of Life students, initially for 6 children, rising to the 9 we currently sponsor. Sponsors have passed away, moved away, or dropped away due to changed circumstances but, despite these straitened times, we still manage to keep the numbers up. Some of our original sponsored students have themselves dropped out of education, for whatever reason—Fields of Life keep us informed of any changes—but we have taken on a new child each time.

The cost of child sponsorship is now €21 per month. If you wish to be involved but find this a bit steep, we are delighted to accept any donation at any time. You can read the latest letters from our children at the back of Newcastle Church. We here in Wicklow cannot imagine what it must be like to live in



East Africa—the nearest comparison is to think of living in medieval times one thousand years ago, living with dreadful roads, mud huts, disease, civil war and hunger—but also with mobile phones and bicycles! Education is the best chance these wonderful people have to make a better life for themselves and their country.

Fields of Life has built over 100 schools since 1997 and has spread its wings from its initial base in Uganda, and is now in Rwanda, Kenya, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and, just last month, into Africa’s newest country, South Sudan.

Jean and I host a Coffee Morning once a year, here at Beechmount, to keep the Bank Account in the black. We are taking this opportunity to let you know that this year’s Coffee Morning with a small Bric a Brac sale for Fields of Life will be held on Tuesday 11th February 2014.

Please come and bring a friend, sure you never know who might be there!

*Brian and Jean Harris* **01 2819709** or [brianharris@eircom.net](mailto:brianharris@eircom.net)

Fields of Life at St Matthew’s:  
Fields of Life at Calary:

Tony Noonan at 01 2811954  
June Roe at 01 2866030

# **N & N NEWS**

## **Baptisms at Newcastle**

8th December 2013

*Daisy Jean Murphy*, daughter of Kim and Eamonn, 'Lazy Acre', Leamore Lane, Newcastle, Co Wicklow.

22nd December 2013

*Isabella DeCourcey Stringer*, daughter of Peter and Emma, Altidore Gate Lodge, Kilpedder, Co Wicklow.

Congratulations to both sets of parents. We hope these babies will bring real joy to their homes and grow up to fulfil the promises made for them at baptism.

## **Funerals at Newcastle**

13th January 2014

*Georgina (Jean) Hughes* Blainroe Lodge Nursing Home, Wicklow. Jean passed away peacefully, following a period of illness. We extend our sympathy to the family, but especially to Peter, Jane and Simon.

22nd January 2014

*Simon Matthew Day* 197 Season Park, Newtownmountkennedy. Our deepest sympathy to Willie and Linda, Simon's parents, and to Luke and Wesley, his brothers, on the tragic death of Simon.

## **Lunch at the Cottage**

The February lunch will take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> from 12.45pm. The cost is still €10. Book your place with Karen.

## **Thank You**

Sincere thanks to all who responded so generously when taking some of Peter's dahlias. The Hospice in Harold's Cross has acknowledged €210 with thanks and appreciation. May your gardens bloom in Peter's memory.  
*Sheila Cleary*

## **Volunteer Rotas**

Rotas for cleaning and flower arranging in Newcastle Church are on the notice board in the porch. Please help out by volunteering for one of these tasks, even for half a month. It lightens the load for others. Thank you.

## **Confirmation**

The 21 candidates from our parishes will be confirmed on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February in Christ Church, Delgany. Unfortunately it would be impractical to hold the ceremony in any of our churches due to space limitations. Many thanks to Rev Nigel Waugh for allowing us the use of the church in Delgany. Please remember these young people in your prayers.

# COFFEE MORNING

*with*

## BRIC A BRAC SALE

*in aid of*

## FIELDS OF LIFE

Newcastle Parish Student Sponsorship Scheme

*on Tuesday Morning 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014*

*from 10.30am*

*at Jean and Brian Harris' house*

*Beechmount, Newcastle*

**All quality Bric a Brac donations welcome!**

### **Breakfast in the Cottage**

Pop in to the cottage for breakfast from 8.40am on the morning of school assembly in the church.

### **Coffee in the Cottage**

Every Tuesday from 10.30am for tea, coffee, toast, cake and chat. Not to mention a lovely warm fire.



*Sunday School Christmas Party*

# Clubs and Organisations

**Next Meeting  
Of Select Vestry  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February  
at 8pm**

## **Junior Table Tennis**

While the members of the club who are sitting their Junior Cert. this year won't be playing table tennis for a while (mocks any day now), everyone else is welcome to come along to the McLean Room on a Monday night from 7.30pm for a game.

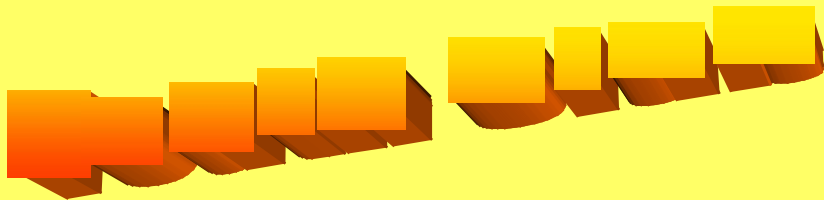
Please contact Muriel Norse at 086 8593936 if you have someone interested in playing.

## **Parents and Toddlers**

Parent and Toddler group meets each Monday morning from 10.30am in the cottage. Everyone with a little one is welcome to come along for play and chat. No meeting over the half-term.

## **Junior Choir**

The Junior Choir was a big hit over the Christmas period. The choir performed at the Carol Service and during the Nativity Play. Quite a few of the members also came out for carol singing around the village. Rehearsals are back in full swing so keep an eye out for the next performance.



**Leaders:  
Paul McAndrew  
Ruth O'Toole  
Andrew Johnston**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

**8pm at Rectory Cottage**



## **Sunday School**

It's hard to believe that January is already behind us. The children had a brilliant time at the Christmas party, a huge thank you to all who helped out on the day. A special thank you to Santa and his elf helper who spared the time to visit with the children. A big well done to all the performers of The Great Manger Mystery, you were all fab! This months classes will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. Looking forward to seeing you all.

*Karen Kissane*

## **Creche**

There is crèche in the cottage with two parents supervising every Sunday during morning service in Newcastle, except during Family Service. On those Sundays the cottage is open and parents are free to bring children out of church and supervise them there if they wish. Parents are welcome to stay with nervous children.

Many thanks to Julie Bond for organising the crèche ,which is invaluable to parents who wish to attend church without the distraction of keeping children quiet.

## **Time Out**

Time Out continues in prayer group format on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 8pm in the cottage. All welcome.

## **Bible Book Club**

The bible book club will meet on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the cottage. Feel free to come along and join in the reading at any stage. There have been some interesting discussions!

## **Bowls**

The club is now in full swing again after the Christmas break The B team played a match against Aughrim B2 at home on 8<sup>th</sup> January which the number 2 mat only lost on the very last ball. They play their B1 team next week in Aughrim and their next match takes place in Gorey on 10<sup>th</sup> February.

The A team meets Wicklow on 22<sup>nd</sup> January at home, followed by a match at Kilcoole on 4<sup>th</sup> February.

It is a miracle of organisation for the Hon. Sec. to organise these matches, get the right people to the right place and find a team to lay on the refreshments for the visiting teams. Evelyn does a super job and is much appreciated. She wouldn't mind a few more volunteers for the entertaining however!

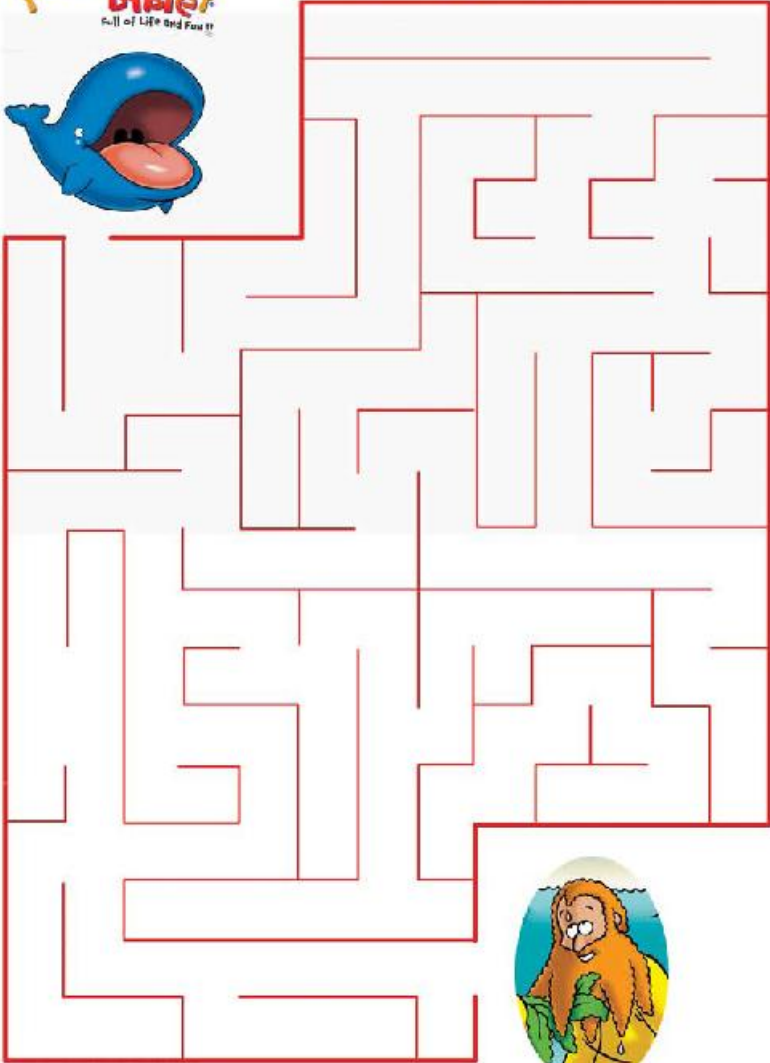
## **Table Tennis**

The parish table tennis club meets every Monday from 8pm in Newcastle Community Centre. Everyone welcome.

# Children's Page

The  
**Beginner's Bible**  
Full of Life and Fun!

Can you help the big Fish Find Jonah?



JONAH AND THE WHALE



**CONFIRMATION  
CANDIDATES  
2014**

**Roisín Pike**

**Isabelle Geraghty**

**Catherine McCullough**

**Megan Punzet**

**Leah Herman**

**Sarah Jennings**

**Laura Stewart**

**Rebecca Stewart**

**Melanie Williams**

**Mark Norse**

**Michael Behan**

**Leo Carter**

**Jack Dempsey**

**Stephen Gillis**

**Ronan Cullen**

**Trevor Nayiga**

**Alan Flood**

**Joshua Fromholtz**

**James Fortune**

**Matthew Sibley**

**Aaron Taylor**

# SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	?	SERVICE	READING
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Calary SS	9.30	WB	HC	<i>Micah 6:1-8</i>
	Newcastle SS	12.00	WB	HC	<i>1 Cor. 1:18-31</i>
	St Matthew's	18.30	WB	EP	<i>Matt. 5:1-12</i>
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Calary	9.30	WB	FS	<i>1 Cor. 2:1-16</i> <i>Matt. 5:13-20</i>
	St Matthew's	10.45	WB	MP	
	Newcastle	12.00	WB	FS	
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Calary SS	9.30	MC	MP	<i>Deut. 30:15-20</i>
	Newcastle	12.00	MC	MP	<i>1 Cor. 3:1-9</i>
	St Matthew's	18.30	WB	HC	<i>Matt. 5:21-37</i>
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Calary SS	9.30	CT	MP	<i>Lev. 19:1-2, 9-18</i> <i>1 Cor. 3:10-11, 16-23</i> <i>Matt. 5:38-48</i>
	St Matthew's	10.45	CT	MP	
	Newcastle SS	12.00	CT	MP	



Holy Communion is celebrated every Wednesday, with prayer for the sick, at 10.30am in St Matthew's, followed by a cup of tea / coffee in the McLean Room. All welcome!

Please send any items for inclusion in March PINS to:  
[information.pins@gmail.com](mailto:information.pins@gmail.com)

Items must be received by **MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup> February** for publication