

**PARISH INFORMATION NEWS SHEET**  
**Parish of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy  
with Calary**

 **MARCH 2021**



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 Ross

Dear friends,

As I sit and write this, the Sun is shining, there is the sound of lawn mowers in the distance, birds are singing... perhaps spring is here! I hope you are all keeping safe and well and enjoying some sunshine.

I would just like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of you for all the kind messages, cards and gifts that we have received; Fiona, Ben, Ava and I have been overwhelmed by the warmth of your welcome! We are really looking forward to getting to know you all in the coming weeks and months. As it is difficult to meet face to face at the moment, I am slowly ringing my way around the parish to say hello, so I look forward to eventually speaking to you all before we meet!

As March arrives, we are continuing on our Lenten path:

*I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Lord to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.*

The introduction to the Ash Wednesday service in the Book of Common Prayer highlights why, as Christians, we observe the season of Lent. We too must carefully keep these days, still our hearts and minds and hear the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness that are proclaimed in the gospel. We are invited to observe a holy Lent, through self examination and repentance, prayer, fasting and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

This Lent is obviously different, and difficult, as we cannot meet together. However, though the church buildings have been closed for two months, the church is still open. The church is its people, it is the community that comes together to worship and give thanks, it is us together as a community of faith.

We are aiming to remain connected through our YouTube page, *Newcastle, Newtownmountkennedy, Calary*, with our recorded Sunday services and midweek reflections. Also, through Facebook, through phone calls and through PINS. It is important to stay connected, to stay together as a community of faith, to worship and to love the Lord our God. It is also important to love our neighbours, to support one another. That is the central aspect that has not changed over the last year of this pandemic, that sense of community, of friendship and the need to reach out and help each other, to listen and to care.

While the world around us may have changed but we have not. Covid-19 has not changed who we are, it has not changed how people care for each other, rather it has increased it as each of us realise how much we rely on one and other for support and friendship. As we progress on our national path to gradually ease the lockdowns, we will hopefully emerge as a more caring and reflective society, united through our common experiences.

If anybody needs any help or assistance, or just for a chat, please contact me on 087-9892941 or by email: [stylesross@gmail.com](mailto:stylesross@gmail.com). Stay safe and well.

God bless,  
Ross

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **Easter Vestries 2021**

**Calary**

**Tuesday 20th April**

**Newcastle & Newtownmountkennedy**

**Wednesday 21st April**

**Put the date for your parish in your diary  
More details closer to the time**



## Institution of our new Rector

It was a very different institution for Ross and his family on Friday 12th February in Newcastle Church. There were only essential attendees there but, with the help of Dicker Event Technology, the service was livestreamed, so that many parishioners could watch on the evening.

A very warm welcome to Ross, Fiona, Ben and Ava (not to mention the various animals now living at the Rectory). We look forward to getting to know the family well as restrictions lift.



*Archbishop Michael Jackson*

*Revd Ross Styles*

*Archdeacon Neal O'Raw*

*Archdeacon David Pierpoint*



*Revd Ross, Fiona, Ben and Ava Styles*





## **Giving to the Parish by Bank Transfer**

Thank you again to all the generous parishioners who donate to the Parish by bank transfer. It is much appreciated. Can I ask you to check two things as we enter a new year? One: has your mandate run out and needs to be renewed with your bank? Two: is your name referenced properly? There are several direct debits which come through as 'sustentation' or 'parish'. This means that your giving is not recorded in your name.

If you can manage to give in this manner it would be a great boon to the parish finances which will struggle greatly to recover after the long drawn out lockdowns. Details below:

**BANK: AIB, Church Rd., Greystones**

**ACCOUNT NAME: Select Vestry Parish of Newcastle & Newtownmountkennedy**

**IBAN: IE72AIBK 9335 5415 2450 30**

**BIC : AIBKIE2D**

*Karen*

## **Lenten Prayer**

**GOD OF GOODNESS AND MERCY,**

**HEAR MY PRAYER AS I BEGIN THIS LENTEN JOURNEY WITH YOU.  
LET ME BE HONEST WITH MYSELF AS I LOOK INTO MY HEART AND SOUL,  
NOTICING THE TIMES I TURN AWAY FROM YOU. GUIDE ME AS I HUMBLY SEEK  
TO REPENT AND RETURN TO YOUR LOVE.**

**MAY HUMILITY GUIDE MY EFFORTS TO BE RECONCILED WITH YOU AND LIVE FOREVER  
IN YOUR ABUNDANT GRACE.**

**TRANSFORM ME THIS LENT, HEAVENLY FATHER. GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO  
COMMIT MYSELF TO GROW CLOSER TO YOU EACH DAY.**

**AMEN.**



# CALARY NEWS

## **New Rector**

We are delighted to welcome Reverend Ross, Fiona, Ben and Ava to the parish and we hope that they will have a long, happy and fulfilling time with us.

## **Music in Calary**

Although it will not possible to have physical concerts in Calary for some time, the committee are working on other possibilities for the coming year.

## **Private Prayer**

Prior to the reopening for religious services in December, Calary Church had been open on Sunday mornings for private prayer. In the current circumstances, with services reverting to online and the large number of people testing positive for Covid 19, Calary will not be reopening at present. This situation is still being kept under review.





Dear Parishioners,

I am writing to you with regards to Newcastle Parish's commitment to Fields of Life.

The Parish commenced support for this marvellous organisation in May 2003. Since then we have paid for the education, each month, of Nine children in Uganda and Rwanda, as well as contributing more than 50% of the finance to the building of the Glendalough School in Uganda in 2005, following much fundraising.

We now find ourselves in a crisis, due to the Pandemic and the increase (to €28.00 per student) in payments required by the Organisation since January 2020.

We have had a small number of donors who have been contributing monthly the full amount but, due to changes in their circumstances - for instance Moving away or Passing away - that we now have only 5 regular donors left.

There is no opportunity to for us to fund raise due to Covid-19 - coffee mornings, jumble sales etc are all stopped, as is the annual Sunday School contribution.

We have outgoings of €28.00 x 9 = €252.00 per month.

Incoming donations €180.00 per month

We need extra funding to continue with our support and are making a special appeal to Parishioners to contribute.

A once off contribution would be super but a monthly one would be even better - ANY amount would be a great help.

€28.00euro each month is less than a Euro a Day!!

Contact Karen or myself

Brian Harris

[harrisbrianhp@gmail.com](mailto:harrisbrianhp@gmail.com)

086 344 9043









# AROUND THE PARISH











## ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



Ash Wednesday

Holy Thursday

Forty Days

Sacrifice

Good Friday

Jesus

Almsgiving

Holy Saturday

Passover

Prayer

Easter

Foot Washing

Fasting

Palm Sunday

Resurrection

Lent

Purple

Holy Week

Palm Branch

**Please Note**

**Castle Kidz Playschool will re-open on Monday 8th March**

**Castle Kidz Afterschool will re-open on Monday 15th March**

**The Parish Office will re-open on Monday 15th March**