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Bishop Kenneth writes

The news over the summer has been dominated by the situation about migrants in the Mediterranean and, to a lesser extent, the situation in Calais.

The situation in the Mediterranean is very complex, and we have to commend our own Naval Service for their work in rescuing so many from certain drownings in ramshackle vessels. The crews of our naval ships are daily facing situations of death and suffering, including very young children, which no amount of training can prepare anyone for. The work is unrelenting, no sooner has one rescue been completed successfully than they have to head out to sea again, not knowing what sort of situation will confront them.

The fact that criminal gangs of traffickers are making millions out of this is especially galling. To trade in human misery and suffering is despicable, and to place migrants in overcrowded and unseaworthy boats, knowing they face almost certain death if they are not rescued is beyond any form of decency or humanity. Some of the migrants are economic migrants, simply wanting to come to Europe for a better life and flee hardship and misery back home. Many more are fleeing terror and persecution in the Middle East from ISIS and other terrorist groups, and are separated from or have lost family members and friends.

Our government has sought to respond positively, by sending two naval vessels, and also by accepting genuine refugees into this country. Our President has strongly criticised the European response as inadequate and minimal and he is correct in so doing.

Despite the complexity of the situation and the difficulty of finding an appropriate political response, we must always remember that whatever the reason for leaving their own country, at the heart of these situations are individuals, members of families, with hopes and dreams for the future, and a desire to leave misery, deprivation or starvation or terror behind them.

With our own history of famine in the 19th century, crossing the Atlantic in “coffin ships”, we should be especially sympathetic. They were escaping hunger and starvation in Ireland and hoping for, and often achieving a better future for themselves and their families.

We as a nation have a long history of economic migration, and up to very recently, successive governments appealed to the U.S. Government to consider the cases of Irish illegal immigrants in the U.S. sympathetically.

No one knows how this situation in the Mediterranean will end – but simplistic solutions are often heartless, and unbecoming of a Christian society and a European Union which makes much of its Christian heritage. For ourselves, we can simply hope and pray for those caught up in this ongoing tragedy, ensure that our own attitudes are not expressions of hate and prejudice, and look to our own past as Irish people, as we pray for a better way forward.

Sincerely,
+Kenneth.

The Rt. Revd. Kenneth Kearon
Bishop of Limerick & Killaloe
Rian Roe, Adare, Co. Limerick
Tel: + 353 (0)61 396244
Email: bishop@limerick.anglican.org

New Priest-in-Charge for Camp & Dingle

Editor: Rev Phyllis Jones has been appointed Priest-in-Charge for Camp & Dingle in the Tralee & Dingle Unions of Parishes. She and her husband Keith plan to move to Ireland from Bournemouth later in September. She has written the following to introduce herself to the United Dioceses.

I have lived in Bournemouth on the south coast of England for most of my life. I was born and grew up in Wallisdown and the Church of St. Mark, Talbot Village was the parish church where I was baptised, confirmed and married. Keith and I met when I was still at school and we were married very young. We have four children, Mark, Martin, Tina and Samantha and six grandsons; and, in June of this year, we were blessed with a great grand-daughter, Esme.

Martin came to visit Ireland over 20 years ago and fell in love with the beauty of Co. Kerry and decided this was where he wanted to live. Seventeen years ago our daughter Samantha also came to Ireland, where she met and married her husband Con. Together with sons Calum, Fraser and Hamish, they all live in Ballyheigue, which is why Keith and I have travelled to visit them as often as we can and have come to know and receive a warm welcome by so many, including the congregation at St. John’s.

My work was mainly clerical until 1994 when I became a residential House Manager within The Abbeyfield Society – an organisation that provides sheltered accommodation for the active elderly. We have so many happy memories of our residents who became our extended family. I believe my calling to the ministry grew clearer from my time at Abbeyfield and in 2002, I left to begin my training for the Ordained Ministry.

We moved back to live in Talbot Village and I was ordained at Salisbury Cathedral in 2005. I was licensed to St. Mark’s as a self-supporting parish priest, whilst continuing to work part-time as a funeral arranger.

Five years ago I was granted permission to solemnise the marriage of my daughter Samantha to Con at Kilgobbin, and since then have had the pleasure of presiding at services both at St. John’s and Ballymacelligott. We feel we already have so many friends in the area and are really looking forward to living in such a beautiful part of Ireland and being part of the community.
Editorial – Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage seems to be everywhere just now. My neighbour is walking the Camino from Biarritz to Santiago de Compostela. The arrival of the first planeload of pilgrims from New York at Knock Airport has been in the news. The World Council of Churches is inviting Christians of different traditions to come together in a Pilgrimage of Justice & Peace (see page 7). And in our own United Dioceses, Rev Simon Lumby is fostering St Mary’s Church, Killarney – the Church of the Sloes – as a spiritual node in a network of pilgrimage trails (see page 8), while Canon Bob Hanna will shortly lead Bishop Kenneth on a camino by car around Christian sites in Co Clare (see page 25).

I sense that pilgrimage – spiritual tourism – is developing a renewed importance for Christians of all traditions in the 21st century. It had been at the heart of Christian life in the Middle Ages, as the Hajj still is for Muslims, but dwindled over recent centuries. Now along with many others I feel drawn to the idea myself. Pilgrimage is a metaphor for life’s spiritual journey. On pilgrimage I can escape the mundane and the humdrum. Perhaps on pilgrimage I may encounter immanent deity in the wild and the ancient, the unfamiliar and the beautiful, and the strangers I meet. And when I return home, I may be changed, made new by my experiences.

In these United Dioceses God has blessed us with natural grandeur, ancient holy places and stories of saints which are tailor made for pilgrimage. They could be linked in a network of pilgrim paths and promoted rather like the Wild Atlantic Way, to the benefit of pilgrims and local communities alike. Pilgrims, whether walking or cycling or driving require a supporting infrastructure of communities along the way where they can find food and shelter, hospitality and guides. Churches and cathedrals from Clonfert to Ardfert might find new life as part of such a growing pilgrim infrastructure, providing many opportunities for us to pass on the Good News of Jesus Christ to pilgrims on the way. And we will surely find Christians of other traditions to share the work.

God bless, Joc Sanders

Newslink

Newslink is the diocesan magazine for the United Diocese of Limerick, Killaloe & Ardfert, which also includes the historic dioceses of Aghadoe, Clonfert, Emily, Kilfenora and Kilmacduagh. For further information about the United Dioceses see the diocesan web site: www.limerick.anglican.org.

Newslink also covers Methodist Midlands and Southern District Circuits within the boundaries of the Church of Ireland Diocese.

Editor

In addition to news from parishes, schools and diocesan organisations, the Editor is delighted to receive articles and letters for publication, as well as suggestions as to how Newslink may be improved.

Please note: names and addresses of contributors must be given, and all letters printed will include name and address unless otherwise agreed with the Editor. All material dealing with parish/circuit matters must first be cleared with the Minister concerned.

Contact details:
Joc Sanders
Turravagaun, Dromineer,
Nenagh, Co Tipperary
Tel: 067 24987 Mob: 087 699 6775
Email: newslink@limerick.anglican.org

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Diocesan Calendar

(for updates see Diocesan web site – www.limerick.anglican.org)

Thu 10th September, 4pm
Finance Committee, Woodlands House Hotel, Adare

Thu 10th September, 7.30pm
Diocesan Council, Woodlands House Hotel, Adare

Sun 13th September
Borrisokane Harvest Lunch, following Harvest Thanksgiving at 11.30am, in aid of Rectory. Tickets €10, children €5

Wed 16th September, 8pm
Diocesan Mothers’ Union Service, St. Nicholas’, Adare.

Sat 26th September, 9.30pm–1am
Roscrea Harvest Supper Ball, Roscrea Rugby Club. Bar facilities & door prize.

Tue 29th September, 8pm
All Saints Church, Castleconnell, Classical Concert by Esposito Quartet

Thu 1st October
Sale of Work, The Abbey Hall, Roscrea

Thu 8th October, 8pm
Service of Welcome for Rev Phyllis Jones, Kilgobbin Church

Tue 13th October, 8pm
All Saints Church, Castleconnell, Classical Concert by Zaïde Quartet

Newslink Annual Subscription Rates for 2015

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(contact: Peter Schutz, Ardu, Castletroy, Co. Limerick,
Email: peterrschuetz@gmail.com)

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(unchanged from 2013)

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Prayer Corner

Partners in Prayer - September 2015

Each Sunday
Church of Ireland: The Diocese of Meath & Kildare and Bishop Pat Storey.
Companion Dioceses: The five Dioceses of the Protestant Church of Anhalt, Germany.

6th September, Trinity 14, Green
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Sialkot, Pakistan and Rt Revd Alwin Samuel, Bishop of Sialkot.
Diocese: Hospital and nursing home chaplains throughout the Dioceses, that they may bring the healing touch of Christ to those who suffer.

13th September, Trinity 15, Green
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of South Dakota, USA and Rt Revd John Tarrant, Bishop of South Dakota.
Diocese: Rev John Michael Godfrey and the Aughrim & Creagh Unions of Parishes following his installation as Rector on 4th September.

20th September, Trinity 16, Green
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Southern Brazil and Rt Revd Humberto Maiztegue, Bishop of South Brazil.
Diocese: The Diocesan Finance Committee and all charged with the care of Church assets, on the Eve of the Feast of St Matthew, patron saint of accountants.

27th September, Trinity 17, Green
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Spokane, USA and Rt Revd James Waggoner, Bishop of Spokane.
Diocese: Renewal of our vision for the future of the Church in the United Dioceses.

4th October, Trinity 18, Green
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese of Sunyani, Ghana, West Africa and Rt Revd Dr Festus Yeboah-Asuamah, Bishop of Sunyani.
Diocese: The farming Community throughout our United Diocese, giving thanks for a good year and celebrating the harvest of the land.

Pray for One Another
By Rev Paul Hardingham

A white man opened fire in a black church in Charleston, South Carolina, in June this past summer. He killed nine people during a prayer meeting. What was amazing in the church’s response was their willingness to pray together and forgive the perpetrator, Dylann Roof.

Here is the power of praying in operation, as James says, ‘The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective’ (James 5:16). He encourages us to ‘pray for each other’ (vs 16), especially for those who are ‘in trouble’ (vs 13), especially sickness, difficulties or setbacks.

Pray with expectation: James addresses specifically praying for the sick: ‘And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. (vs 15). But what about those who are not healed? He calls us to pray with expectation for healing, as God hears and answers prayer.

However, James is not just talking about physical healing. He literally talks of the sick person being ‘saved’, indicating that he is talking about prayer for wholeness, including emotional and spiritual healing eg. guilt and hurts, unforgiveness and sin in our lives.

Pray with faith: James also calls us to pray with faith, following the example of Elijah, who was human just like us: ‘Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.’ (vs 17). We can pray powerfully and effectively, not because we are righteous, but on the basis of our relationship with Christ.

Did you know that the apostle James was nicknamed ‘camel knees’, because he spent so much time praying! ‘The prayers a man lives on his feet are just as important as those he says on his knees.’

September Prayer

Loving Father,
Please help us with all the new things September brings: a new school year, new stages of life, with children moving on or out, new challenges for many as summer gives way to autumn.
Help us in this season of change to know the constant reality of Jesus. Thank you for the new life He freely offers to all who turn to Him.
In Jesus’ name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

How Prayer Works

You pray for the hungry.
Then you feed them.
This is how prayer works.

attributed to Pope Francis

O’Donovan Pipe Organs

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SHARING YOUR VISION
Two or three years ago representatives of almost every parish in our united Dioceses came together in one or other of three groups to begin to think about the Church of the future. The outcomes of all of those meetings by way of visions and hopes were remarkably similar and for the rest of ordinary time in Trinity I would like to share with you and comment on some of those great similarities.

Without exception every parish wanted to be known as a welcoming community. In itself and as a starting place that is absolutely wonderful. Inclusive hospitality is at the heart of our Gospel. How do we ensure that we are welcoming? If we were in the retail trade - which I don’t think we are except on the day of the annual Fete, sale of work or whatever - we would be ensuring that our front of house staff are properly trained to meet, greet, sell and send the customer off with a cheery “have a good day” or “talk later”. No, we are not retailers but we are God’s ambassadors, so can we outdo in welcome the woman or man behind the counter in the way we make strangers welcome to the worship of God at the door of the Church. A smile, a handshake, if that is appropriate, a greeting, the service sheet, prayerbook and hymnbook if these are necessary. All this we usually manage. What about extending the courtesies just a little bit further. Often our pews indicate either directly with name markers or indirectly with the presence of worship items, bibles, books - even unclaimed Newslinks - that there is a proprietorial presence lurking. And almost always the pews nearest the door are the ones which carry this signalling so that the sensitive visitor has to move closer to the front to be sure that the cardinal sin of “who’s been sitting in my pew?” is not committed. Or does our welcoming include an escort service as far as the nearest pew which we know is not going to be occupied?

GOOD WELCOMING
If we really are keen on being good welcome should our initial greeting include some such question as “are you familiar with the Church of Ireland prayer book?” If the answer is yes then it is likely that the visitor can manage the service without too much difficulty. If the answer is no then a really warm welcome will require that they are hosted in your pew or that you sit with them unless, of course, your priest minister is particularly good at announcing what the next appropriate page in prayer book or hymn book is. It may sound fussy but you know we would go to some lengths in our own homes to make sure that visitors are comfortable, can relax and know where the small room is. So why should such civility not be extended to the stranger when the People of God assemble? Perhaps we need to go a little further with our reflection on this matter of welcoming.

Quite recently I was assisting with the distribution of the elements and the view from the sanctuary showed me that we had three visitors in the back pew who hadn’t been there at the beginning of the service. Even at a distance it was obvious that they were young, male and, to quote Mrs. Thatcher, “not some of us”. My memory reviewed the service and I realised that the celebrant had not issued the invitation to the Feast. As it happened one came forward to the Table. The others did not. Would they if the invitation had been given? It really is worth pondering this matter in the context of welcome and hospitality. What understandings and expectations, if any, should we have when an unknown person or persons arrives at Church at the time of worship?

I sense that there are two starting points to construct an answer. Nowadays we should certainly assume that if someone comes to Church they actually do want to be there. Church attendance is a declining practice and it is quite likely, indeed almost certain that the person who comes is making a deliberate choice to be there. The complementary understanding, I think, must be that they are not necessarily Church of Ireland or even Anglican. Strict denominational loyalty is rapidly evaporating. It is this understanding that makes it essential that we offer the very best of our hospitality.

I had a very recent worship experience of such inclusivity that even those who regarded themselves as agnostic, pushing atheist, felt comfortable and deeply appreciative of the spiritual depths and dimensions of the experience into which they entered. And that experience was entirely Jesus focussed. Could it be that this inclusivity is the bench-mark against which we need to begin to measure what we do and how we do it from the moment someone presents at the door until they take their leave. And leave-taking raises another issue - what is needed for a visitor to feel truly welcome? Surely there has to be time spent after the service that allows for some kind of relationship to develop. A coffee time allows for some kind of relationship to develop. A coffee time allows for some kind of relationship to develop. A coffee time allows for some kind of relationship to develop.

The WELCOME is profoundly important and those diocesan meetings were foundationally right to recognise that. Let’s all of us begin to ask how can ours be improved.

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Care for Creation

Call to Celebrate Creation Time

Eco-Congregation Ireland is encouraging churches throughout Ireland to hold environmental events and climate justice services during Creation Time, which runs from 1st September, the Orthodox Feast of Creation, to 4th October, the Feast of St Francis. Celebrated by churches throughout the world, Creation Time is an opportunity for Christians to reflect on the wonder and mystery of Creation and to choose better ways to relate to Creation.

This year’s theme is Joining the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace, which the World Council of Churches has chosen in anticipation of the vital COP21 UN climate talks that will take place in Paris in December.

Excellent resources have been specially prepared to equip parishes to focus on this theme. These include liturgy, prayers, sermon notes and suggested hymns following the Revised Common Lectionary readings for September, with a particular emphasis on the Gospel readings, which feature Jesus journeying on the road.

You can download resources including intercessory prayers and a service of prayer and reflection from Eco-Congregation Ireland at http://ecocongregationireland.com. Eco-Congregation Scotland, has also prepared some excellent Creation Time resources, downloadable from http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/materials/creation-time/.

Eco-Congregation Ireland also encourage parishes, if they haven’t already done so, to make use of Eco-Congregation Ireland’s climate change resource, which includes a comprehensive theological response to climate change, prayers for the environment and tips for reducing one’s carbon footprint.

ECI Chairperson, Archdeacon of Ossory Ven Andrew Orr, says: “We hope these resources will encourage Christians in Ireland to incorporate eco-friendly habits into their lives – as churches, communities and as individuals – as they come to terms with the reality of climate change and the urgent need for climate justice – for the sake in particular of the world’s poor, of the whole of Creation and of future generations.”

Prayer for Creation

Creator God, we thank You for all of Creation;
We pray for
   Trees, plants, crops, and forests,
   Oceans, rivers, streams and ponds,
   Air, wind, climate and weather,
   Sun, clean energy and prevention of global warning.

We pray too for animals, birds and fish, especially endangered species,
For humankind – that we would find ways to reduce, re-use and recycle more,
We pray for moderate personal consumption, proper use of chemicals and disposal of toxic waste.
We pray for Earth and community, for peace and goodwill in all of Creation. Amen.

The Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace

Everywhere we look today, life seems imperilled. Isn’t it time for Christians and Christian churches everywhere to unite in sustaining life by working together on today’s most pressing issues? Isn’t it time for Christians everywhere to join in a sacred journey – a pilgrimage – of justice and peace?

At the 10th Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Busan, Korea called member churches “to work together in a common quest, renewing the true vocation of the church through collaborative engagement with the most important issues of justice and peace, healing a world filled with conflict, injustice and pain.”

This is the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace. Christians are to participate in signs of God’s reign of love, justice and peace and to seek them in response to God’s will and promise. The pilgrimage is grounded in God’s mission for the world and the ministry of Jesus Christ. Following Jesus means meeting him wherever people suffer injustice, violence and war. We can experience God’s presence as we care for the most vulnerable, the wounded and marginalised. It can be a transformative experience. Alive in the Spirit Christians discover power for the transformation of an unjust world. The pilgrimage has at least three interdependent dimensions.

First is celebrating the gifts (via positive). We do not journey with empty hands, nor do we walk alone. Together we celebrate God’s gift of life and the beauty of creation. We are empowered by God’s grace to participate in God’s movement of love, justice and peace in the world.

Second is visiting the wounds (via negative). The pilgrimage leads us to locations of ugly violence and injustices. We look for God’s incarnated presence in the midst of suffering, exclusion and discrimination. We might be led to repentance and liberation from obsession with power, possessions, ego and violence, so that we become more Christ-like.

Third is transforming the injustices (via transformative). Being transformed ourselves, the pilgrimage may lead us to specific actions of transformation. We may grow in courage to resist evil and live in true compassion. Economic and ecological justice as well as the healing of the wounded and striving for peaceful reconciliation is our call from God. We are to be a fellowship of justice and peace praying and acting for the good of the world.

The World Council of Churches has a convening, coordinating and enabling, and leading role in the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace. It participates in the pilgrimage through its own programs and as it facilitates member churches and ecumenical partners to participate as is appropriate for their context. But in the end, it is God who invites us to join this pilgrimage with joy, humility, courage and commitment, as a fellowship on the move, a community of pilgrims, journeying together towards life in all its fullness.

The WCC website for the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace is: http://www.wccpilgrimage.org
On Sunday 16 July a new tourism brand was launched at St Mary’s (Church of Ireland) in Killarney. The new brand—“The Church of the Sloes”—is designed to help grow Spiritual Tourism in Killarney and the area. The logo identifies St Mary’s Church in Killarney with the name of the Town: Cill Airne means “Church of the Sloes”. The Church is located near the ancient sacred centre of the Town. So it is fitting that the Church should represent the spiritual heritage of the Town to the tourist.

Spiritual and pilgrimage tourism is becoming popular. This new brand seeks to bring it to Killarney. Making the rich spiritual history of the area accessible to the visitor. The brand and logo “The Church of the Sloes” highlights the significant spiritual and Celtic-Christian heritage here. The Church is located between the hotel sector and the commercial heart of Killarney. Many tourists discover it and pop in to look. Revd Simon J Lumby (Rector of St Mary's Church, Killarney) said, “It makes this Church ideally suited to present this story to them.” The project is ecumenical—that history predates the Reformation—so the Roman Catholic Church is a key partner. The early Celts recognised the deep connection between nature and the spiritual. This theme links it to the Christian sense of the presence of the divine. The Revd said, “no-one had focussed on the town’s name, we’re taking up that challenge ... this makes a deep connection between Church and Town.”

Revd Simon came to Killarney from the Peak District National Park where he ran a project for the Churches and the Tourism Sector to engage with tourists. He brings this experience to Killarney. He said, “We want to interest them in the spiritual history of this place and people”, he added, “We want to reach into their hearts from our hearts”. Being a tourist is not just about knowledge and enjoyment, it’s also about inspiration and wonder. The Celts thought of the river of the soul that “flows between heart and mind”. The tourist experiences the same. When they look at the view from Aghadoe, hear our music, and enjoy our welcome, they feel it too.

This project will benefit the wider community of Killarney. There will be economic value. There will also be a renewed sense of integration. It is hoped to extend the project to other churches and use them as links in pilgrimage and spiritual trails across the West of Ireland and into the midlands. Killarney is home to Inisfallen and the great monastery on Loch Léin (Lake of Learning). Also Muckross Abbey and the ancient spiritual centre at Aghadoe. The land was of great significance to the early inhabitants. The Sloe berry comes from the Blackthorn tree. The tree was important to the ancient people. It has spiritual significance not just in pagan mythology but also in Christian tradition. Revd Simon said, “It’s the ideal visual motif for connecting that old sense of the sacred with the tourists’ sense of awe and wonder”. #lovekillarney #churchofthesloes

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Diocesan Synod of The United Dioceses Of Limerick, Killaloe & Ardfert - Election Results 2015

1. Lay Member of the Representative Church Body: Ms Y Blennerhassett

2. DIOCESAN COUNCIL 2015-2016
   - Chairman: The Bishop.
   - Ex-Officio Member: The Diocesan Secretary

**LIMERICK**
The Very Rev. S.A. Pragnell
The Rev. L Beasley
The Rev. Dr. K. Scott

**KILLALOE**
The Ven. R.W. Carney
The Very Rev. G.A. Paulsen
The Very Rev. P. L Towers
The Rev. Canon R Hanna
The Rev. J Galbraith

**ARDFERT**
The Ven. S.M. Watterson
The Rev. M.R. Cavanagh
The Rev. S J Lumby

Mr. K. Brislane
Mr. J. Clarke
Ms. T Lyttle
Mr. P. Schutz
Mr. K. Sparling
Mrs. E. Stanley

Mr. A. Armstrong
Mr. R. Benson
Mr. L. Blackwell
Mr. R. Cooke
Ms B Delahunt
Ms F. Kenny
Ms D Powell
Mrs. J. Sanders
Mr. E. Stanley
Mr. P. Whyte

Mr. T. Blennerhassett
Mr. E. Champ
Mr. A. Eadie
Mrs. M. Groves
Mr. A. Hilliard
Miss. P. Mason

FINANCE COMMITTEE
- Elected by Members of Diocesan Council - 2015
   - Chairman: The Bishop.
   - Ex-Officio Member: The Diocesan Secretary
Ms P Mason will attend meetings, as appropriate, as representative of Peevers, Slye Cotter.

The Ven. R.W. Carney
The Ven. S. M. Watterson
The Rev. S J Lumby

Mr. R. Benson
Mr. K. Brislane
Mr. A. Eadie
Mr. P. Schutz
Mr. P. Whyte

The Diocesan Secretary thanks the Returning Officer, Mrs. M. Groves for her assistance in preparing, sorting and counting of the voting papers for this year’s Diocesan Synod and also for her assistance in the election of the Finance Committee.

Mrs. Margaret Groves
Returning Officer

Ms. Yvonne Blennerhassett
Diocesan Secretary. September 2015
Diocesan Organisations

Girls Friendly Society

CLOUGHJORDAN BRANCH

Four leaders and thirteen girls from this branch attended a most enjoyable Diocesan Camp in June. Well done to everybody involved for organising such a successful weekend.

Cloughjordan G.F.S. thanks the Tipperary Education and Training Board for the grant we received for Branch work.

Cloughjordan weekly G.F.S. meetings begin on Wednesday, 9th September, 3pm - 4.15pm. This year’s badges will be for Dance and Science & Discovery. We look forward to our coming year and continued fun, friendship and fellowship.

NENAGH BRANCH

Nenagh GFS branch thank the Tipperary Education and Training Board for the grant received for Branch work.

We will resume Meetings in September – dates for year to be confirmed. All meetings will take place in the back vestry of St. Mary’s Church, Nenagh on appointed Saturdays. Please contact Rose Langley for more details – tel. 087-6758896

SYMPATHY

Leaders and girls of the Diocese express sympathy to Sandra Hayes, Cloughjordan Branch, on the death of her mother.

UPCOMING EVENT

Leader Training Day

Leader training is organised by Central Office and will take place in Abbeyleix on Saturday, 12th September. Please advise Michelle Armitage if you intend attending before 3rd September.

Family Fun Day

Family Fun day was a great success last year. This year Nenagh looks forward to welcoming girls and leaders from the Diocese on Saturday, 19th September at 2pm. At this time the venue is not confirmed but all details will be advised to branches as soon as possible. Please contact your Branch leaders or Rose Langley for more details.

All the branches are busy preparing events and schedules for the coming year so we look forward to lots of news and photos in the coming months. Leaders please send all you notes and photos to Rose Langley at rose.langley@gmail.com

Boys' Brigade

1ST NENAGH BOYS' BRIGADE

We enjoyed a fun and full boys' brigade year, with trips, friendship, games, learning and more!

Our last meeting of the year back in June saw celebrations of Daniel and Denis’s time with us as they move to secondary school, as well as Josh’s birthday. We had special visitors too; our friend Kevin Murray and Trish O’Halloran, world champion weight lifter, who fascinated the boys with her trophies and achievements, then we rounded off the evening with a barbecue.

We look forward to seeing all the boys back for the 2015/16 year, starting with our summer trip on 12th September to Craugganowen, followed by some extra treats!

Our dates for the first term are:- Sept 12 and 22, Oct 6 and 20, Nov 3 and 17, Dec 1 and 8

Mothers' Union

ST JOHN'S BALLINASLOE

The committee of Ballinasloe branch has been busy finalising the programme for the coming season 2015/2016. All our meetings start with bible reading and prayer, (the theme for the coming season is the Parables of Jesus), and our first meeting will be an evening of fun.

We are all looking forward to the arrival of our new rector the Rev’d John Godfrey, and his wife and children. A very warm welcome awaits them from the members of St. John’s Branch.

ADARE

2014/15 Activities

As Autumn approaches we look back at the activities of the Mothers’ Union Branch in the Adare Group of parishes.

Harvest Supper was held in October with Askeaton and Limerick – an excellent attendance – raising €650 for overseas.

Rev Liz and Kirk told us about Hawaii and their time spent there in November and Our annual Christmas party was held in the rectory. The singing of Christmas Carols and some party games were enjoyed and the young families group provided the refreshments.

Balaam’s Donkey

A prophet called Balaam one day Took his donkey away from its hay. When Balaam said “Go!” The donkey said “No!” “There’s an Angel of God in the way!”

by Nigel Beeton
St Mary’s Church, Nenagh was the venue for a Christmas Tree Festival and the Mothers’ Union decorated tree took second prize! Congratulations to all concerned.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER WAS CELEBRATED IN ST NICHOLAS’S. On 25th March was The Feast of the Annunciation and Rev Liz led us in a service that evening.

27th March saw many MU members headed for the Old Mill in Bruree where Jessie hosted a coffee morning and her husband Dick demonstrated wheel turning as in the days gone by.

In April we were joined by Templemore MU when Hazel Sherlock (Vice-president) gave a talk on MU both on national and international affairs within the world wide union.

Many of our members were involved in the Flower Festival – congratulations to Meriel and her hard working committee on the wonderful event which was enjoyed by all.

On 6th July Mothers’ Union was involved with Rev Liz and Kirk in the garden party where £344 was raised for “MUMS IN MAY”. Music, good food and enjoyable company made this a special day and sincere thanks to Rev Liz and Kirk for their hospitality.

It was with regret we said goodbye to Joyce Williams and wish her all the best in her new home.

Mothers’ Union welcomes all new members and even if you can’t join or come to every meeting for whatever reason please feel free to come now and again, watch the notice board in your church to see when events and meetings take place and bring a friend.

If you wish to join please contact: Jessie Griffin - 063-90284 or 087-6392267

Finishing with the words of Phyllis Grothier, our president, who at the beginning of the year asked if we were willing to be D.A.F.T. - I am, what about you?

D.A.F.T.
Daring:  - Are we willing to be daring – are we willing to enable, encourage and support those who are in trouble?

Agreeable:  - Are we willing to work together for what is best for Mothers’ Union today?

Faithful:  - Are we willing to be loyal, faithful and faith-filled to the foundation stone of Mothers’ Union – faith in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ and a willingness to that all we do is based on that?

True:  - Are we willing to be true to our vision to “bring about a world where God’s love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships?

Well ….. let’s all be D.A.F.T.

United Diocesan Youth Council

JUNIOR SUMMER CAMP
On Sunday the 19th of July a lovely bunch of excited participants and leaders arrived at Catherine McCaully House in Spanish Point for a fun filled week at the 2015 Junior Summer Camp. After a delicious meal, some time spent getting to know each other and some late night worship we got some sleep for a busy day at the Burren Outdoor Education Centre on Monday. Everyone had an enjoyable time – experiencing some ‘real’ caving and rock climbing – where everyone had a go. Charades was the entertainment that evening. Next day we headed off to Kilkee for some water sports with Nevsail Watersports including kayaking, canoeing, surfing and orienteering. Despite the dreary morning it brightened into a beautiful evening and we headed back for a challenging table quiz. Wednesday we packed our bags for an overnight camp-out by the sea at Fanore. We put up tents then headed to the beach for an exhilarating swim and sand castle competition, returning for a tasty barbecue and some hot chocolate. Next morning we packed up and headed to Doolin Cave where we saw an amazing stalactite formation. That evening we had traditional campfire on the beach, and singalong, marshmallows and all! Friday morning we headed to Lahinch for some swimming with an inflatable obstacle course, followed by bowling and a cinema trip in Ennis, then a disco and a midnight feast. Saturday morning after a final worship and impressive variety show, saw a tired but satisfied group clean up and head home, with wonderful memories and new friendships as souvenirs. It was a great week to be remembered.

SUMMER MADNESS 2015
One 3rd of July a group of enthusiastic youths left Limerick early for a seven hour bus journey to Co. Antrim for a fun, spiritual and exciting five days at the Summer Madness Christian Festival in the beautiful coastal Glenarm Castle Estate. Arriving surprisingly on time we were welcomed by more leaders who had already travelled up the day before to do the job of putting up our tents and marquees. We were fortunate this year to have our dinners with the Kilmore Youth Group, with whom we were able to share delicious meals. The exciting worships were led by Stephen Mayes followed by Phil & Hannah Shaw, who led us in well-known songs as well as teaching us some brand new ones. Main stage concentrated on the eight beatitudes from the Bible; speakers this year were Miriam Swaffield, Patrick Regan, Barry Forde, and Jasper Rutherford who were all able to bring something for everyone. Day times were action packed filled with dozens of seminars each day, ranging on topics from relationships with God and others to preparing for University. For those who were looking for something more energetic there was sailing and canoeing along the coast and plenty of frisbee, volleyball and soccer tournaments to name a few. In the evenings the cafes were buzzing with activity from watching live bands in the Exodus Café, to having a game of pool or cards in the YFC Drop-In or simply chilling in the Woodland Café listening to open-mic performers while sipping tea. Despite some mixed weather it was a very enjoyable five days for participants and leaders alike allowing everyone to make new friends and be reunited with old ones.

SENIOR SUMMER CAMP
The week started off with a relaxing journey from Limerick to Sligo with a few stops along the way, and plenty of time for everyone to get to know each other. Worship was led by Damian and was enjoyed by all, leaders and participants alike. We headed to Bundoran Monday and Tuesday for outdoor activities like surfing and raft-building.
On Wednesday night we roasted marshmallows over a campfire on the beach and a small sing-a-long. On Thursday, we zipped through the trees of Lough Key forest park. a variety show and disco was how we topped-off the day, with some wonderful acts performed by both leaders and participants. Friday was more relaxed with a trip to Waterworld in Bundoran, a bit of bowling and then a trip to the cinema before heading back to the centre. It was a tired group on the journey home on Saturday.

**Diocesan Board Of Mission**

**GOODS FOR SWAZILAND DESPATCHED & RECEIVED**

The Diocesan Board of Mission, who have been supporting the Luyengo Farm Project in Swaziland since 2011, approached the staff of the Agricultural Engineering Dept. at Institute of Technology Tralee, to design and build a carrot washer. They agreed to take on the project on account of their knowledge and, experience of making equipment for Africa since 1985.

Two third year students studying for the Ordinary Degree in Agricultural Engineering - Brenda O’Sullivan from Farmers Bridge, Tralee and John Doyle from Beaufort, Killarney - volunteered to design and build a carrot washer as their major project. With hard work and assistance and advice from the technician staff, they were able to complete their objective, to produce a machine which is not only a novel method of washing carrots but also capable of washing a wide range of vegetables.

The carrot washer, along with boxes of clothing, rain gear, school books and hand tools were loaded onto three trailers, Wednesday 24th June 2015 en route to Dublin Port. If all goes to plan the vegetable washer should be in action by the middle of September this year.

The Diocesan Board of Mission would not only like to thank all those parishioners who gave of their time, money and hardware, but especially the three main sponsors namely, Cross Agricultural Engineering Ltd, Rathangan, Co Kildare; Dairymaster, Causeway, Co Kerry and the staff of the Agricultural Engineering Dept., Institute of Technology Tralee, for their time, assistance, and support of this project to make it a success story!

The picture shows loading of the carrot washer and boxes of clothing, rain gear, school books and hand tools into three trailers at I.T.Tralee en route to Dublin Port, in the first stage of their journey to Swaziland.

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

Members of the Diocesan Board of Mission are invited to a meeting at 8pm on Wednesday 16th September in the Woodlands Hotel, Adare.

**Children’s Ministry Network**

It is time to start planning for a new Sunday School programme. Here are some programmes and resources the C.M.N. and the Sunday School Society for Ireland recommend.

Any queries please contact Lydia: sss@ireland.anglican.org or Jane: galbraithjane@gmail.com

**FULL PROGRAMMES**

- **Roots**: www.rootsontheweb.com A RCL based resource. A subscription (ask the S.Vestry to subscribe) gains access to loads of ideas and activities.
- **Go Teach**: www.goteach.org.uk This covers the main events, themes, and doctrines of the Bible. Each book has 15 lessons. Caters for ages 3-14.
- **Light**: www.scriptureunion.org.uk Bible based learning Bubbles <5 yrs; Splash 5-8 yrs; Xtreme 8-11 yrs. And Tiddlywinks for the tinies.

**USEFUL RESOURCES**

- Anyone Can Tell a Story by Bob Hartman
- Tried and Tested Youth Games App. Free to download!

**HELPFUL WEBSITES**

- During the Harvest Season many people begin to look at justice issues: www.christianaid.ie/resources/churches/resources/children-in-church.aspx - adaptable ideas, great for All-age talks and Sunday Clubs/Schools.
- www.cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-schools has great resources all year round - lots of ideas for discussing hunger with children.

**GENERAL WEBSITES**

- Barnabas in churches: www.barnabasinchurches.org.uk
- Barnabas in schools: www.barnabasinschools.org.uk
- Flame - Creative Children's Ministry: flamecreativekids.blogspot.co.uk
- Danielle's Place: danielleshop.com/
- Scripture Union: www.lightlive.org
- DLKT: www.dlkt-bible.com
- Col Children's Ministry: www.cm.ireland.anglican.org
- Pinterest: uk.pinterest.com/

**USEFUL IDEAS**

- Loads and loads of ideas and resources on www.cm.ireland.anglican.org
- For Harvest Make a Thank you Prayer Wall...using strips of old colourful fabric, write thank you notes to God and pin them on a board. Children who find it hard to write can draw. Do more than one. Chat about thankfulness.
- Create a welcome pack ...for children who may be new to church or Sunday school. You might like to include a welcome card from the church family; some nice pencils or notebook; a list of who's who in church/Sunday school; a prayer.
SCHOOL NEWS

Villiers School

HEADMISTRESS’ NOTE
As I write we are making our final preparations to welcome our students back for the 2015-2016 academic year when over six hundred students will come pouring through our doors bringing with them all the hopes and promises of a new academic year.

The summer has been a busy time in the School. Contrary to popular opinion, the School does not close during this period! Instead we are home to many colleges and camps – academic, sporting and cultural. This summer we have been kept on our toes and we were delighted to host more groups than ever before. We also use the summer period as a time to carry out upgrades and maintenance, and so, Villiers has been a hub of activity over the holiday period.

Every year in Villiers we embark on some new projects to ensure we offer our students the best educational opportunities – in the broadest possible sense. This year our plans are twofold. Firstly, we are delighted to have had the opportunity over the summer to commence refurbishment work on the beautiful “Derravaroher” building. Work is ongoing but we now look forward to including this as an integral part of the School for our senior students. Secondly, we have introduced an exciting and significant development into our Transition Year programme, with the launch of ITY (Independent Transition Year), which will lead to innovative and exciting curriculum expansion and maximize learning and self-learning opportunities for our students.

A key moment during the summer in every second level school in Ireland is Leaving Certificate Results Day. I take huge pride in giving my sincerest congratulations to the Villiers Class of 2015 on their outstanding achievements in the Leaving Certificate. We are delighted with how this year’s group performed, their successes bring with them all the hopes and promises of a new academic year.

This year was our largest ever Leaving Certificate group with a record number of students taking exams many of whom chose to either board or day board to avail of study facilities in school. Overall, 25% of students gained 500+ CAO points with 2% of students gaining 600+ points, and 55% of students achieved over 400 points – a fantastic accomplishment. It is important to remember that results are individual and personal. While we have had many high achievers in terms of CAO points and university placements, we are also delighted that so many students reached their full potential and achieved personal success. The students are a credit to the school, their families and especially to themselves and we wish them every success as they begin the next stage of their lives.

Of course for some determined students the school year began a little early in August when the Boys’ Senior Hockey coaches George Blackwell and Brian Gray travelled with a dedicated group of players to s’Hertogenbosch Hockey Club in Holland for some pre-season intensive coaching and some Dutch games! What a fabulous commitment and interest from the boys and a huge thank you to the coaches for all their input. Hockey 2015-16 is truly launched! We are now looking forward to welcoming back all our existing students and of course we are especially looking forward to getting to know all of our new students. Term began on Monday 31st of August with an Open Afternoon and Induction for all new students. We intend that the year ahead will be one of learning, friendship and faith.

NEWS FROM THE VILLIERS SANCTUARY
As I write this the summer is coming to an end and the new term is just about upon us. This is always a time of great anxiety for new students as they patiently await a new beginning in their lives. I want to welcome one and all to the Villiers community and of course say goodbye and congratulations to our outgoing 6th form who are also on a journey of new beginnings. Even though there is always anxiety this is a time of great excitement, full of new dreams, promise and hope. I always look forward to this new time and getting caught up in the forging of new friendships and the reacquainting of old ones. So I want to simply welcome one and all to a new chapter in the life of the Villiers community and to say that my prayer for this year is inspired by Saint Paul in his letter to the Corinthians when he stated that, “Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

So let this year be one full of love…

Until next time,

Blessings and peace to all

Chaplain Jackie McNair

Killaloe Diocese

Killaloe & Stradbally Union of Parishes

Killaloe, Castleconnell, Clonlara, Mountshannon and Tuamgraney.
Rector & Dean: The Very Rev. Gary Paulsen
The Deanery, Abbey Road, Killaloe, Co. Clare
Tel: 061–374 779
Mob: 085–764 0533
Email: abbeydean2@gmail.com

We had two weddings at Castleconnell over the ‘summer’. Oisin Marsh and Naomi White were married on 25 July. We all walked over from the church after the ceremony to the beautiful setting of Naomi’s parents’ home which is on the Shannon River just down the road from the church. You could not ask for a more beautiful setting of a marque on the lawns of the beautiful grounds. The weather was good and when it is a dry day all is well for a wedding. Good wishes to them and a long and happy life together as they continue their married life in Dublin.

Sarah Holmes and Kevin Sullivan were married 15 August at All Saints, Castleconnell with the reception just across the road at the Castleoaks Hotel. They had a unique mode of transport which was a motorbike with a sidecar. Rev Leslie Robinson came from Dublin to officiate with Dean Gary Paulsen assisting. We wish them well as they make their home in the UK.
Robert Parks who was suffering from ill health for a while unfortunately died and his funeral service was at St Flannan’s Cathedral on 7 July and was conducted by the Rev Lucy Green. Our prayers and Sympathy for Jennie and children and grandchildren as they remember him with great fondness and try and deal with their loss.

Castleconnell Autumn series takes place again with the Limerick Arts Council presenting a series of four concerts over four months. The first of these on 25 August with pianist Stuart O’Sullivan and cellist Peter Sebetyen performing works by Schumann, Beethoven and Brahms. The dates for the rest are 29 September The Esposito Quartet; 13 October Zaide Quartet (France); 17 November Soprano Sylvia O’Brien cellist Christopher Marwood and pianist Michael McHale. All of these start at 8pm and ticket at door or online www.limetree theatre.ie or box office (061) 774774

We are going to start using the church building at Clonlara again as it has not been used for a number of years now. We had some vandals break in and filthy the church and left the church heating as it has not been used for a number of years now. We had some repairs and upkeep. It is always a difficult situation when you have a building and no congregation, however this may be a place where ongoing work to bring it to working order again. It was good that Fr Pat Greed rolled up his sleeves and helped clean up. We will be having a harvest service there on 27th September at 4.30 pm and then once a month thereafter. It is hoped that if we do use the facility it will be less likely to turn into just another church ruin. If you are free on the day do come along. The collection will go to the church but also her garden. Many a plant in the garden of others have turned up in the church of St. Burchin’s Bourney. Over the past few years she had not enjoyed good health. Betty was well known as a person who not only loved her church but also her garden. Many a plant in the garden of others today, in the parish and beyond, was happily supplied by Betty. Betty is survived by her son Dick and his wife Daphne and their family. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

As the new academic year begins we wish all our pupils and students a good year ahead. Our good wishes to Andrew O’Brien as he starts third level education.

**Birr Group of Parishes**

**Birr, Lorra, Lockeen, and Dorrha**

**Rector:** The Venerable R. Wayne Carney

Archdeacon of Killaloe & Clonfert

The Rectory, Birr, Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 912 0021 Mob: 087 786 5234

Email: mapleire@eircom.net

Parish Facebook: www.facebook.com/BirrGroupOfParishes

**BICENTENARY!**

This year, 2015, is the Bicentenary of St Ruadhán’s Church in Lorrha, and there are plans for a special anniversary service early this autumn. Do listen for announcements about this special service.

**ANOTHER BICENTENARY!**

2016 is the Bicentenary of St Brendan’s Church in Birr. To begin the festivities, the Birr Historical Society will be holding a special lecture on the history of the church, given by Salters Sterling at 8:00 pm on Monday, 21st September in the church. All are welcome.

**WET PAINT**

In preparation for the Bicentenary, the Birr Select Vestry has decided to have the interior of the church painted, starting on Tuesday, 22nd September. The last time this was done, about 30 years ago, half the church at a time was painted, and by all accounts this was unsatisfactory, with dust and fumes interfering with worship. Therefore, this time the church will be closed for about two months, so that all the painting can be done in one go. Details of times and location of services during this time will be announced.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Best wishes to Ross Jackson (son of Arthur and Barbara) and Lucinda Rohan on their recent marriage while on holiday. Congratulations to them both (and little Sienna!).

**HARVEST SERVICES**

Lockeen: Sunday, 27th September, 3:30 pm

Lorra: Sunday, 4th October, 8:00 pm

Dorrha: Sunday, 11th October, 3:30 pm

It appears likely there will be no Harvest Service in Birr this year because of the church painting.

**Roscrea Group of Parishes**

Roscrea, Bourney, Corball and Kyle

**Rector:** Rev Jane Galbraith

St. Cronan’s Rectory, Rosemount, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0505 217275 Mob: 087 382 5336

Email: galbraithjane@gmail.com

July and August were busy month despite holiday time. Hopefully everyone will have taken some time for rest and reflection before the new term of activities leading up to Christmas begins. Thanks are due to all those who shared duties whilst others took time out during the summer; churchwardens, treasurers, CD operators and especially organists Marjorie McCorduck, Madalene Hodgins and Jordan Lewis.

FROM THE REGISTERS: Betty (Elizabeth) Charlotte Benn was laid to rest on July 9th. Betty was a good and faithful parishioner of St. Burchin’s Church, Bourney. Over the past few years she had not enjoyed good health. Betty was well known as a person who not only loved her church but also her garden. Many a plant in the garden of others today, in the parish and beyond, was happily supplied by Betty. Betty is survived by her son Dick and his wife Daphne and their family. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

**HOLY BAPTISM:** John William Hodgins, like his big sister Rachel, is no stranger to St.Burchin’s Bourney; hardly missing Sunday since his birthday in April. His parents, godparents and friends brought him for baptism on Sunday August 16th. Congratulations and prayerful good wishes to Lorraine and Thomas, John’s parents.
Blessing of the Animals during Family Service of the Word, took place in St.Burchin’s Bourney on July 19th. The weather was very kind this year adding to the enjoyment of the picnic afterwards. Our worship was outdoors amidst butterflies and the many creepy crawlies that help us mammals live our lives. Animals included ponies, a rabbit, and a delightful assortment of dogs. Sheep stayed in the adjoining field. All came forward for an individual blessing. Their handlers were very well behaved too! Very many thanks to Clive Davis who supplied all the sound equipment for our worship.

Mothers’ Union Roscrea Branch was delighted to entertain members from their link dioceses of Derry and Raphoe on July 16th. As part of their visit to the northern part of our dioceses, five visitors joined with us in Holy Communion after which Adrian Hewson showed off our beautiful St.Cronan’s Church. After seeing the sights of Roscrea town an extensive guided tour of Mt. St.Joseph Abbey was arranged and led by one of the Brothers. Tea followed there and lots of ideas and planning strategies were shared.

HIGHLIGHT OF SUMMER 2015.
On Saturday July 18th. a celebration of the Holy Communion took place, marking before God, the thirtieth anniversary of the admittance to the Office of Reader in the Church of Ireland of Adrian Hewson. Adrian’s contribution to the Roscrea Group of Parishes is legendary. Friends and colleagues from far and wide joined, a multitude of parishioners and well wishers, in giving thanks for Adrian’s extensive ministry in many aspects of church and town life. This continues. It was a great joy to welcome back Revd. Lesley Robinson to preach, shading in even more areas of this holy and fun loving man. Ecumenical guests included Fr.Tom Corbett, Revd. Shannon DeLaureal and a Brother representative of Abbot Richard of Mt. St.Joseph’s Abbey. Archdeacon Wayne Carney rounded off many words of appreciation of Adrian’s service to the work of God. There then followed a wonderful dinner ‘feast’, in the Templermoor Arms’ which despite the late hour, was exceptionally well prepared and served and most gratefully received. Very many thanks are due to Des Young and his team for the overall planning of this event.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Sat. 26th. September: Roscrea Harvest Supper Ball. 9.30-1 a.m.
Roscrea Rugby Club. Bar facilities and door prize.

POSTAL CODES
St.Cronan’s Church Roscrea E53 FT54
St.Cronan’s Rectory Roscrea E53 HE 98

VILLIERS HOUSING ASSOCIATION
is seeking a Resident Superintendent for their small housing complex in Limerick city.
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Web: www.pact.ie
Official Opening of Kilkishen Cultural Centre by Edwin R Bailey

On Friday July 3rd, the community of Kilkishen in East Clare celebrated the official opening of Kilkishen Cultural Centre in what was Clonlea Parish Church. The ceremony was performed by Dóirín Graham, Chief Executive Officer of Clare Local Development Company. In attendance was Mike Hogan, chair of Kilkishen Development Association, Bishop Kenneth Kearon, Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, Councillor James Breen, Lord Mayor of Clare and Fr. Donal Dwyer PP, parish priest of Kilkishen and O’Callaghan’s Mills. Councillor P.J. Ryan was MC for the ceremony.

The church was built in 1811 and worship continued until 1961 when it was closed. Fifty four years later, thanks to the vision of Kilkishen Development Association under the chairmanship of Mike Hogan, and the co-operation of Kilnasoolagh Select Vestry, it is reborn as a very useful Cultural Centre. Even though it was closed for all those years the structure and the roof largely remained intact. Windows and doors were long gone and the graveyard suffered from a gross lack of maintenance. Now all is changed. The building is beautifully restored and an extension for services built on, cleverly harmonised with the older structure. Stanford Architects from Kilkee were engaged as the architects for the project and Taaffe Construction from Murroe were chosen as the builders.

Completed in 2014, the centre has hosted a monthly series of concerts organized by Sixmilebridge Folk Club as well as performances by Frankie Gavin and Dé Danann and other well-known performers. Training courses have been hosted by CLDC, LCEBT and Cullaun Sailing Club. Regular weekly activities include Music Classes, Karate Classes, Yoga, Over 50’s exercise sessions and the local Parent & Toddler Group get together. The venue is an exhibition centre for local artists and many local organizations use it for meetings.

Bishop Kenneth Kearon addressed those assembled for the ceremony saying, “This project has been truly worthwhile and The Church of Ireland are proud and happy to be associated with the restoration of the building and its continued use in and for the community of Kilkishen”.

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www.kingshospital.ie

Headmaster: John D. Rafter
B.A.(Mod), B.Sc., HDipEd.
Creation - God is Infinite
The 6th of 7 articles on Creation by Rev Simon J Lumby, Rector of Killarney Union

The reason God is Infinite and One, all at the same time, is to do with the idea of infinity. Infinity is defined as the unending possibility that there is more. It's like always having further to go than the distance we've just covered. Infinity comprises all that there is or ever can be. Therefore to be Infinite God must be One.

Phil 2:6-9 says Christ gave up something in order to become perfect. This sounds like a mathematical impossibility; how can infinity less something still be infinity?

"[Christ Jesus] did not regard equality with God as something to be [kept hold of], but emptied [of] himself, taking the form of [that which is bound], ie being born in human likeness. Being found in human form, he was humble [of] himself and became obedient to the point of death... Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name"

We must remember that Jesus must be seen as both fully human and fully Divine (so he didn't give that up). So what can we take away from perfection only to leave perfection? Well, something that was added that shouldn't have been. We look to Genesis 2. There we learn that humanity added something that God didn't give us: our modern word for it is Ego (that's why the song I did it my way is the worst thing at a funeral). Jesus didn't treat equality with God as his right. Instead, having taken the bound form of a human being, he dispensed with the human Ego.

That name which is above all other names is the Imago Dei, the Divine character. God is Love. When we're Christlike we're egoless (1 Jn 3:6) and then it's no problem bending our knee (Phil 2:10)

This then is where the boundlessness of God matters to us who are bound by spacetime. When we crucify "of ourselves" (ie our ego) we join Christ in being resurrected to our true selves as divinised humans. This is when we become capable and more so than Christ (John 14:12) of bridging boundaries and healing hurts. After all, creation is still groaning inwardly (Rom 8:19-23).

The role of forgiveness, that divine act of selfless love, is to turn us round so we notice that Jesus already heralded the Kingdom of Heaven in and around himself. If we, who are faithful to Christ, are not also faithful in seeking for selflessness then how are we to move others whose faith is in their Ego?

We've seen already, much of what is wrong with the world is of our own doing. Why? It's not because we're unmindful of the needs of others. Let's face it, that's what's motivated us to excel in technology. It's because we've also allowed ourselves to be acquisitive and regard it as our right to possess (own) things. So we've driven technology to create evermore extravagant things so that we can possess them. This means that far more energy, which should freely recycle through the Universe, is being trapped in things we possess (unnecessarily).

The selfless one is more happy to give than to receive and is blest for not regarding things as possession, but rather as short-term loans. But should we give only for someone else to possess it...?

Take a drinking straw and put it into a carton of milk. Now suck on the straw. If you've a little amount of milk in your mouth it's not because there's none in the carton. It's because you've not sucked hard enough. That's the way of it with the human economy; demand creates supply. However, the advertising industry has become extremely clever at creating a market for a new product. God's economy only works when we act as conduits of God's love; not when we behave as reservoirs.

It's not God's provision that's infinite. This Universe is a closed system. There's a finite amount of energy to go round. So our trapping it makes there less to go round and our Planet must adjust accordingly. What is infinite is God's character: Love; Forgiveness; and Patience (Gal 5:22). Let's be possessed by God's Love; the more we give it away the more we are given to give. Let's not possess the Universe's energy.

The expulsion of Adam & Eve, Benjamin West, National Gallery of Art, Washington DC

This is where the ancient idea of "name" comes in. We treat a name as a label. In earlier cultures someone's name was their character (hence James and John are Sons of Thunder and Jesus is Son of God.}

Your name is your character so what you do is a label. For example, in a modern culture someone's name may be "Jim" or "Jim Smith". But our modern idea of name is as a label. We don't see ourselves as being a name that is a character. We don't see our name as our character.

Phil 2:9 says Christ was "highly exalted" which means his name is above every name. Why? It's because he's a name who is above every name. He's a name who is eternal. He's a name who is infinite.

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Summer Fun for Children in Kerry

At the Tralee ‘Cops & Robbers’ children’s holiday club in Teach an tSolais

Kenmare’s Kid’s Shed and Praise n’ Play enjoyed trips on the Star of Kenmare
Summer Fun with UDYC

Our young people at the UDYC Junior and Senior Summer Camps and at Summer Madness had a wonderful time, thanks to the commitment and hard work of their leaders – see the reports on page 10. We’ve put together this photo-collage to share the memories.
Bandon Grammar School is a Church of Ireland managed school with its own chapel, chaplain and liturgical programme working in a spirit of inclusion.

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Our United Dioceses consists of eight ancient bishoprics. While the names of four of these are household words, the other four names with time have become more obscure. One of these is the Diocese of Emly (often mispronounced as Emily). On the West Tipperary/East Limerick county border, Emly is perhaps better known in recent years as a Tidy Towns national winner. However Emly has an ancient and illustrious diocesan history: created a diocese in the 12th century, it was joined with Cashel in 1562 and then superseded by Cashel, while in 1977 it was severed from Cashel and joined Limerick and Killaloe. Today, according to the Church of Ireland Directory, only one Emly diocesan church remains open, that of Abington included in Limerick City Parish. However in Golden Age times Emly was the ecclesiastical capital of Munster. Its monastic settlement was powerful and widely celebrated, thanks to the influence of its founder and patron, St Ailbe, a holy, venerated figure often known as “that other Patrick of the island of Ireland”.

Ailbe’s biography is almost as obscure as his name and that of his diocese today. While his life-story was written in medieval times more often than that of any other Irish saint, each life-story is different, and thus his life has become a mixture of fact and fiction. However two true facts emerge: firstly he is considered to have preceded St Patrick; and secondly his foundation at Emly was influential enough to have later been chosen as the seat of a 12th century diocese.

While all school children remember learning that St Patrick brought the Christian faith to Ireland in 432 AD, the history books also acknowledge that he was preceded by a man named Palladius whose mission was considered a failure. However, modern research considers Palladius’ failure was not complete, and suggests that four tiny pockets of Christianity persisted in the South of Ireland for a short time before St Patrick came. Two of these pockets are associated with our United Dioceses, one being in the Dunkerrin-Clareen area of South Offaly, founded by the famous Kieran of Saighir, and the second in a now unknown place further south founded by St Ailbe. Indeed one of Ailbe’s life-stories tells us that he was baptised aged seven by Palladius in the 5th century, and as a youth went to Rome where he was consecrated a bishop. On his return to Ireland, he travelled around baptising many people, but not everyone, as the Lord decreed that was to be the work of St Patrick. During Patrick’s early mission to Ireland he baptised Aengus the King of Munster and Cashel. Ailbe went to Cashel to welcome him, and his humility impressed both Patrick and the King.

And so to the man himself! Ailbe was born a Tipperary man, in the territory of Ely O’Carroll, son of a ruler called Cronan and Cronan’s handmaid, rather than his wife. His father had him placed under a rock, hoping that he would be devoured by wild beasts, but in the ancient classical Roman fashion Ailbe was nurtured by a wolf.

Eventually, as the story goes, he was rescued, and when discovered and baptised by Palladius he was instructed in the Christian faith. His journey to Rome for further studies was quite adventurous. When sailors refused to bring Ailbe to Britain they were almost shipwrecked, and were forced to return and bring him on board to ensure a safe journey. While to complete his journey to Europe he simply spread his cloak on the water and walked across! On his return to Ireland he persuaded the newly converted King Aengus to give him his large Atlantic island, and so Ailbe’s friend St Enda was established in a monastic foundation on the Aran Islands.

After visiting much of the island of Ireland, an angel directed Ailbe to the Limerick-Tipperary border to establish his principal and final foundation. The angel told him, “Here you shall be buried; and in this place a great city shall arise in your honour” – and here the ‘city’ of Emly began, one of the three principal ancient cities of Ireland. It quickly became renowned as a place of vigili, fasting, prayer, charity, mercy and kindness, and stories abound of the wonders and miracles worked by Ailbe. He sheltered and daily fed a hunted wolf in recognition of a wolf’s kindness to him in infancy. As the time of his death was approaching circa 526, his Life says he “migrated to Christ amongst angels singing hymns”.

For centuries afterwards the church of Ailbe continued to flourish, his burial place at Emly became a place of pilgrimage, and a spacious cathedral was erected as a memorial. Sadly Viking plunderers reduced the status of the ‘city’ and diocese and Cashel exceeded it in ecclesiastical importance, with the ruined cathedral being eventually demolished 1877. Nevertheless, it is good that the Church of Ireland still recognises a man that “made people not only Christians but also saints”. The Book of Common Prayer still acknowledges his feast day on September 12th.
Everyone can discover their potential.

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Nenagh, Templederry, Ballymackey and Killodiernan
Vacant
Priest-in-Charge: Rev Lucy Green
Tel: 062 79941 Mob: 087 667 0425
Email: lucygreen06ie@yahoo.co.uk
Diocesan Readers:
Joc Sanders 087 699 6775, joc_sanders@iol.ie
Audrey Clarke Gordon
087 742 8901, audreyclarkegordon@hotmail.com
SERVICES
St. Mary's Nenagh: 11am 1st, 2nd, 3rd (Family Service) & 4th Sundays
Templederry: 9.30am 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays
Killodiernan: 12.15pm 2nd & 4th Sundays
5th Sundays: 11am United Service, rotating between churches

At the end of June, three of our young people, April Hayes, Lauren Cao and Dylan Morrison were confirmed by Bishop Kenneth.

It is customary to give a Bible but Reverend Lucy didn’t want to give the usual NRSV but wanted the three to have “The Word on the Street”. This is a modern version of the Bible written by Rob Lacey who was an actor and writer. While he was writing it, he found out that he had cancer and was given a year to live. He defied the doctors and managed to complete The Word on the street and two other books but sadly died in 2006, leaving his wife and two young children behind.

“Word on the Street” is a great way for young people to connect with the Bible and Reverend Lucy hopes April, Lauren and Dylan will enjoy reading it as much as she does.

Congratulations to Susan Howard and Henry Mooney who were married in St Mary’s, Nenagh on 10th July. Following a reception in the Castleoaks Hotel they honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico and New York. We wish them every happiness in their life together.

We extend sympathies to Jean Mooney and her family on the death of her mother, Bertha Armitage, Borrisokane, and to Stuart Hamilton and family on the death of his mother, Anna Hamilton, Sligo.

The Rose Window in St Mary’s Church has been fully restored and replaced.

Work is progressing well on the refurbishment of the Rectory and it is hoped that all will be completed by next month.

The traditional ecumenical service of thanksgiving for the Shannon Regattas was held in Killodiernan Church on Sunday 16th August. It was well attended by sailors and friends and raised €416 to be divided between RNLI Ireland and Missions to Seafarers. Lessons were read by David Meredith, Commodore of Lough Derg Yacht Club, and Allan Algeo on behalf of the Commodore of Lough Ree Yacht Club. Terry Johnson, Vice President of RNLI Ireland gave a most interesting address on the work of RNLI, noting particularly the long historical connection with the churches. Sylvia Crawford played the organ, to which all sang lustily, in particular to ‘Eternal

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Father, strong to save’. The service was led by Diocesan Reader Joc Sanders. Fr Willie McCormack PP of Puckane & Carrig Catholic parish had hoped to attend, but was prevented by other duties at the last moment.

The 2015 Dromineer Literary Festival will be taking place during the first weekend of October (1st until 4th) with events in both Dromineer and Nenagh. See dromineerliteraryfestival.ie for the full programme.

As we head into the autumn and another school year we wish all students a good year ahead, especially those embarking on new educational journeys and in the parish, meetings are being organised for the planning of the various fund-raising events to be held during the year.

**Cloughjordan & Borrisokane Group of Parishes**

Cloughjordan, Borrisokane, Borrisnafarney and Ballingarry.

Vacant

Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Ruth Gill
Kilgolan House, Kilcormac, Co. Offaly
Tel: 057 913 5341 Mob: 087 948 4402
Email: ruth_gill40@outlook.ie

The previous notes for Newslink had to be in just before the school holidays began and now they have to be in just before the schools reopen! We hope that students returning will have had an enjoyable holiday and will return refreshed and ready for another year and that those who sat exams will discover satisfaction in following whatever path that will lead them on to their next stage in life.

**WELCOME!**

It was very welcome news to hear that the Revd. John Godfrey has been appointed to Aughrim & Creagh Group of Parishes and he is wished every blessing in his ministry.

**CONFIRMATION**

On the 28th June, the Bishop administered the rite of Confirmation on five candidates in Borrisokane Church, Laura Hayes, Hazel Young, Jackie Wakefield, Jacqueline Mooney and Laura Williams. Many thanks to all those who helped make it such a special occasion with particular thanks to Mrs. Heather Persse for making the girls’ preparations such fun and at the same time, a meaningful exploration of the many ways that God influences our lives.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

To Jenny Wilson and Scott Cooper who recently announced their engagement. Also to Brian Stanley and Gemma on the birth of their baby girl, a grandchild to Wilf and Myra. To Charlie Cavanagh and Donna Bryant on their marriage in Donegal in July.

**MOTHERS’ UNION**

Members from our linked Diocese in Derry paid a visit to Killaloe Diocese in July where they were very well looked after by members from Roscrea branch. During their stay they paid a visit to Loch Boora. Many thanks to Lady Rosse for arranging a guided tour for them in Birr Castle.

**BORRISNAFARNEY FETE**

The Fete was held on the 23rd July in Moneygall Hall. There was a great turnout and congratulations to all involved. The teas were a huge attraction! Well done everyone!

**THE RECTORY**

Work to be carried out as recommended by the Diocesan Architect has been done with the remainder to be completed when a new rector has been appointed. In the meantime, parishioners from all parishes have been keeping the house maintained which will make the last-minute preparations much easier.

**FUND RAISER**

Borrisokane parishioners are hosting a harvest lunch on Sunday, 13th September in aid of the rectory. The lunch will follow the Harvest Thanksgiving service being held at 11.30 a.m. with Bishop Kenneth Kearon in attendance. Tickets cost €10 with school going children at €5 and are available from Angel Donovan. Do please support this opportunity for parishioners to meet together.

**BEREAVEMENTS**

Very sadly, Mrs. Frances Daunt, mother of Sandra Hayes died in Cork shortly before Laura’s confirmation and sincere sympathy is extended to Sandra, Ivor, Laura and Andrew in their loss. Our thoughts and prayers are also with others who have been bereaved, the relatives and friends of the late Bertha Armitage of Borrisokane. Also, the relatives of the late Canon Robert Reed of St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin. May God grant to all who are bereaved, his strength and peace as they meet the days to come.

**THANKS**

It is thanks to our readers, Pearl Whiteford, Valerie Stephens and John Chadwick and the Revd. Denis Sandes, that services have been provided in all churches every Sunday. This ministry is appreciated and is not taken for granted! Also, thanks to those who provide music every week.
Hall which seemed to come complete with all the people who always enjoyed the Sunday service. It was especially appreciated by the parish that Bishop Kenneth came to Aghancon to support him on the first of these occasions. Our prayers go with you for your continued recovery.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the sudden death of Olivia Whitten. Nothing happened in Shinnrone Parish that was not supported by Olivia. She was an amazing fund raiser and would spend all day in the local supermarket selling daffodils. So it seemed appropriate that there should be a retiring collection at her funeral. €825 was donated to the Irish Cancer Society. Shinnrone Church was packed for her funeral, a fitting tribute to the friend she was to so many people. Our sympathy to her son George, daughters Lilian and Frances, their families and all her many relatives and friends.

Kathleen Whitten died in Canada, her adopted country, after a long illness. Her ashes were brought home and after a service in Aghancon, were buried in Ettagh Graveyard. A large number of people attended the service and burial. Our sympathy to all who are bereaved, but especially to Kathleen’s sister Jean and brothers Anthony and Henry. Kathleen went to Canada over 40 years ago but had returned regularly on holiday, and family members visited her in Canada over the years.

Aghancon held their annual parish fete which was well attended and enjoyed by all. All the usual stalls and sideshows were in evidence and the financial result was excellent. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make it a success.

The Aghancon parishioners are not being allowed to rest on their laurels as on the 30th August funds from the Black Bull Threshing Festival were donated to Aghancon Community Hall for work that is still to be completed. The Hall continues to host a number of Community events. Not least amongst these is that several members of the parish have taken a course and are trained in the use of a defibrillator. The defibrillator is now purchased and ready for use at the Hall.

Dunkerrin Parish also held their fete and Dog Show which were a great success. A huge ‘thank you’ for the use of the Community Hall which seemed to come complete with all the people who always help when it’s in use! A wonderful Community Event enjoyed by everyone, not least by the dogs! Big thanks to John Brown and Lorraine Malone for their help in organising the dog show and getting sponsored prizes. The generosity of so many people never fails to amaze.

CONGRATULATIONS: to George and Eileen Patterson who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary and to Ina and Leslie Blackwell who celebrated the same anniversary in June. May God continue to bless you with happiness.

DIARY DATE: The Venerable John Murray, now retired from Rathdowney parish, will be in Shinnrone on Sunday the 18th October for our Harvest Thanksgiving service. John’s father was Rector of Shinnrone in the 1960’s and John grew up in the parish.

Reverend Janet would like to thank everyone who supported her Open House Day, the first Friday of Birr Vintage Week. This has become an annual event and this year nearly €800 was donated for the Camcor Warriors, the local branch of the Special Olympics. Sport makes such a difference to children’s lives, but is really vital in motivating these special children.

Several parishioners have been ill in hospital. Thankfully all home again at present. Please remember all who are unwell in your prayers.

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Shinrone Group of Parishes
Shinrone, Aghancon, Kinnitty and Dunkerrin
Rector: Canon Michael Johnston (on sick leave)
Priest-in-Charge: Archdeacon Wayne Carney
The Rectory, Birr, Co. Offaly
Tel: 057 912 0021 Mob: 087 786 5234
Email: mapleire@eircom.net

Drumcliffe Union with Kilnasoolagh
Ennis, Kilfenora, Kilkee, Spanish Point, Kilnasoolagh and Shannon
Rector: Rev. Chancellor Robert Charles Hanna
The Rectory, Bindon Street, Ennis, Co. Clare.
Tel: 065 - 6820109 Mob: 086 2167040
Email: bobhanna@eircom.net
Parish website: www.churchofirelandclare.com

PASTORAL PILGRIMAGE
We welcome Bishop Kenneth to Drumcliffe Group with Kilnasoolagh for an inaugural formal visit to the parish over the weekend of September 19th and 20th. His time will involve sharing in a camino-pilgrimage around the churches and holy sites of Clare, allowing Pastor and parishioners to catch a feeling and vision of the landscape In which “we live and move and have our being”, glimpsing afresh the holy sites which have become our heritage and our responsibility.

The programme for the ‘prayerful motor tour’ being worked on within the parishes will commence at the lower end of the county at Kilnasoolagh, a classical rural church built between the Inchiquin O’Brien Dromoland and the Fitzgerald estates, within Newmarket-on-Fergus and not far from Shannon Town and the Airport and Estuary. The Church sits on a primal worshipping site going back some 750 years, a daughter development from Bunratty. Ennis takes its ecclesiastical name of Drumcliffe from the ancient place which is now best known for the town burial site, including graves of worshippers from the Church of Ireland, and the ruins of a medieval church is within the site. The Heritage Town in which the present Victorian neo-gothic St Columba’s church sits spans three rivers which flow to the Shannon Estuary out of the nearby Burren. The Burren is a natural area of limestone gaining increasing attention as Ireland’s unique geo-park and flora reserve, where hill trekking, archaeological exploration and pilgrim touring enhance the Wild Atlantic Way. It asks questions of our conscious sense of place and any role our Church life might have towards hospitality and common celebration of the Creation. The nearby Franciscan Abbey ruin, once housed Anglican worship until it moved out around dis-establishment for a new vigorous start in hard times not that long removed from the Famine trauma.
Kilfarboy (Christ Church Spanish Point) with its older medieval site of that name and Kilfenora Cathedral of the High Crosses (St Fachnan) form key targets by the Atlantic edge and on the Burren for the car camino. It is planned to hold short acts of worship in the Churches and sites visited.

HARVEST
St Columba’s Drumcliffe will be a stopping off place only on Sunday 20th September for the Harvest Thanksgiving, at 4.00pm, a moment offered for the whole group when Bishop Kenneth will be preacher and celebrant. The Bishop is anxious that following fellowship on the Saturday camino this will be a large celebration of unity, which also has room for invited neighbours to share. Parishioners please note!!

SUMMER WORSHIP
Over a low-key, constrained summer, with its mediocre weather the coastal ministry from the Spanish Point Mobile Home chaplaincy continued as usual and thanks go to the chaplains, Valerie Shannon and mum Dot Bolster, for coordinating hospitality there, and also to Terry and Catherine Shaw and family for opening Kilkee Church and warming it with their kindness. Bishop Kenneth visited Kilkee Church in early summer and was acquainted with all the issues pertaining to its future.

LUNCHTIME CLASSICS
A third annual season of lunchtime recitals at St Columba’s brought burgeoning attendances to hear some of the top sopranos in the Republic (and one tenor!) in the Republic, as well as superlative accompanists on piano and harp. Soprano and organiser Helen Houlihan gathered around her fellow singers - Sean Boylan, Virginia Kerr, Norah King, Cara O’Sullivan and Lynda Lee.

Bright moments to offset the summer clouds! Sing to the Lord a new song!!

Sick List; We keep in our prayers Mary Sinclair who we are glad to say is making a recovery from a rather serious illness, Claire Besnyoe who is recovering from an accident at her home and also Charlie Weily who is out and about again after a spell in hospital. Baptist: Michael Donnchadh Rochford Hyde son of Simon and Elaine Hyde was received into the church at morning service in Aughrim on Sunday 26th July.

Our sympathies to Robin Newton on the death of his cousin Edie Parkhouse in Dublin. Edie was married to Robin’s uncle and was a frequent visitor to Hill-view in her earlier years.

We as a group are very grateful to Dean Maurice Sirr who has taken care of our spiritual needs since last February and for guiding us in the problems that arose in both vestries. His advice was greatly valued.
Clonfert Group of Parishes
Clonfert, Banagher, Eyrecourt, and Portumna
Vacant
Priest in Charge: Very Rev. Patrick L. Towers
Tel: (090) 9684547. Mob: (086) 8140649
Email: towers.patrick@gmail.com

PARISH VISITATION
We were very pleased to receive the Mission and Resources Committee members to the parish and hope they gained as much value from their visit as we did in showing them our Group of Parishes and responding to their questions. We await the outcome of their deliberations and to how the Diocese view the ministerial future of our Parish.

SUMMER TIME
The Summer has brought the round of seasonal events from BBQs to Forest Picnics, to Regatta Services and with many parishioners partaking in Youth Events, Revivalist Meetings and a host of walks, rides on bicycles, horses and on foot for a range of charities. Many parishioners are very much part of the digital and post-geographic generation and it is hard to keep abreast of where the summer action is. For some it is working amongst the homeless, the young and all too often marginalised. For others it is facilitating concerts and taking part in local festivities. Great to be part of a mission filled church, a community aware church and a liturgical engaged one. As one parishioner remarked quoting a certain Old Testament prophet “I am commanded to do justly and love mercy and humbly walk with my God.” Amen to that, I say.

Banagher Barbecue Chefs

HARVEST SEASON
Please check nearer the time that the services times are as advertised. It is possible sometimes for a service to be rescheduled by half an hour to meet a preacher's travel arrangements. If that eventuality does occur we will, though, ensure tea is available for those who wait.

Banagher Harvest Festival: Sunday September 27th @ 3.30pm
Portumna Harvest Festival: Sunday October 4th @ 4pm
Eyrecourt Harvest Festival: Sunday October 25th @ 7.30pm (Note Summer time ends).

Limerick City Parish
St. Mary’s Cathedral, St. Michael’s Pery Sq. and Abington
Dean: The Very Rev. Sandra Pragnell
The Deanery, 7 Kilbane,
Castletroy, Limerick
Tel: 061-338697 Mob: 087-2658592
Email: sandrapragnell@eircom.net

Curate Assistant: Rev Edna Wakely
50 Ballinvoher, Fr. Russell Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick
Tel: 061-302038 Mob: 086-3574917
Email: ednawakely@hotmail.com

HOLY BAPTISM
Natalie Rachel Cullen, daughter of Alastair and Cara Cullen and granddaughter of Bill and Heather Cullen was baptised on 19th July in St Mary’s Cathedral while home on holidays from Houston, Texas.

CONGRATULATIONS TO
Dolly and Frank Shier who celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary on 31st July. We hope they had a very happy and memorable day.
David Kavanagh, son of Lucy and Joe, and Deirdre Mullally who have announced their engagement.

WEDDING
Congratulations to Gill Lyttle and Nick Lee who were married in St. Michael's Church on Friday 21st August by Dean Sirr and assisted by Dean Sandra. The church was looking beautiful for this occasion. We wish Gill & Nick every blessing and happiness in their life together.

Nick Lee & Gill Lyttle signing the register with Dean Maurice Sirr

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BEREAVEMENTS
5 July – Alexander (Sandy) Martin in London – our sincere sympathy to his wife Irene (nee Boyle) their children, brother-in-law Roland Boyle, and to their families and friends.
27 July – Charlese Obiakor (parishioner of St. Michael’s) whilst on holiday in Nigeria – our sincere sympathy to his wife, Annet, their daughters Tracey and Shalom and to their families and friends.
29 July – Betty Brislane (parishioner of St. Mary’s) – our sincere sympathy to her husband, Ken, sons, Karl & Gerald and daughter Elizabeth and to their families and friends.
1 August – Amy Tyrrell (Killaloe) – our sincere sympathy to her daughter Roberta Hardy, husband Thomas, their son Robert, together with their families and friends.
3 August – Robert Hughes (Clonmel) – our sincere sympathy to his wife Aga, daughter Isabel, son Alexander, his parents Trevor and Bess, brother Wesley, his relatives Ruth, Norman and Noel Stanley, Paul Clarke and Ken Clarke, together with their families and friends.
DEAN SANDRA is pleased to announce that she has been awarded an M.Div. and would like to thank you all for your prayerful support over the past few years.

LCP BARBEQUE – a very successful BBQ was held in Villiers School Saturday 8th of August. The weather was mixed but over 80 people enjoyed fun games, excellent food and good company. The helpers, food suppliers, games masters, washer-uppers, and bartenders are too many to mention individually but a huge thank you to all who helped in anyway. A special thank you to Jill Storey, Principal Villiers School for opening its doors to LCP, very much appreciated.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS: The long wait is now over and we extend congratulations and best wishes to them as they set off to further their education in many different places, both here and overseas.

PLANT SALE AND AUTUMN FAIR: This is taking place in Villiers School on Saturday 3rd of October from 11am to 2pm. We will welcome contributions of plants, cakes, jams, and preserves, books, games, bottles, bric-a-brac (no electrical). Please keep us in mind when Spring cleaning your house and/or garden. Tracey Lyttle 086-6486197 and Elizabeth Stanley 086-2687123 welcome offers of goods and novel ideas for stalls. There will be a big raffle also – donations of prizes will be greatly appreciated.

ST. MARY’S CATHEDRAL: is very grateful for the repair to our silver Pyx (for communion bread). It was originally donated to the Cathedral by Frederick Bond who was the Verger from 1959 to 1966. His niece Rita Harris arranged for it to be repaired and thanks to Suzi Eckhardt who carried out the repairs. Rita’s granddaughter Ellen made a cloth cover for the box to keep the silver clean. Rita Harris was the first Female Dean’s Verger in St. Mary’s and indeed had the distinction of being the first Dean’s verger in the whole of the British Isles – with Limerick leading the way.

The Dean is looking to provide a small church library in the Cathedral to enable parishioners to borrow books – if anyone has books that they think suitable and indeed a bookcase that might be suitable, please contact Dean Sandra.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES IN LCP
20th September at 4pm – Abington Harvest – Preacher – Fr. Loughlin Brennan PP Murroe & Boher 4th October at 11.15am – St. Mary’s Cathedral – Preacher – The Rev’d Patrick Towers 18th October at 10am – St. Michael’s Church – Family Harvest

Adare and Kilmallock Group of Parishes
Adare, Croom, Kilmallock & Kilpeacon
Rector: Canon Liz Beasley
The Rectory, Adare, Co. Limerick.
Tel: 061 396227 Mob: 087-7199750
Email: revlizadare@gmail.com

The primary talk of the parishes this summer was simply what a cold summer it has been! As of this writing, however, the weather has improved, and the sun is shining in the midst of a blue sky.

The primary excitement was the appearance of May’s Festival of Faith & Flowers on television: most prominently on Nationwide, on 29th July, and also on Irish TV, Limerick County Matters, on 17th and 20th June.

Still, there were some special events over the summer, beginning with a book launch at St. Nicholas, Adare, on Wednesday, 24th June. This was the third book launch in seven months, and two of the books were by church member and Diocesan Reader Barbara Bingham. On 24th June, the Provincial of the Augustinian Order in Ireland, Fr. John Hennebry, officially launched Ms. Bingham’s book Adare: The Augustinian Friary & St. Nicholas Church, which describes the church’s history and architecture. David Humphreys, conservation architect for St. Nicholas, and the author herself also spoke, and the speeches were interwoven with the sublime singing of Cantoral, an early-music vocal group based at the University of Limerick. Many described the evening as “perfect.” Ms. Bingham gave a portion of the proceeds of the sales on the evening to the church.

A week or so later, Rector Liz Beasley and her husband, Kirk, hosted a barbecue on the grounds of the Rectory, in thanks to God and the parishes for this past year. Holding an outside event is always a risky venture, but other than a few brief showers, the weather held off! The date, 5th July, provided an excuse to have some American-style foods, such as might be eaten for a 4th of July picnic. About 80 people showed up during the afternoon, and we simply relaxed and enjoyed food and one another’s company. Jessie Griffin supplied an abundance of desserts (and delicious they were!), on behalf of Mothers’ Union. About €250 was collected for MU’s service activities.
The summer was then quiet, other than a movement afoot at St. Nicholas to begin offering guided tours. Flyers announcing the opportunity for a tour went to all the hotels and B&Bs, and small posters appeared around the village. A member of the parish and a worker from West Limerick Resources now offer guided tours on weekdays. They will continue through the end of September.

The Kilmallock parish enjoyed a Baptism on 22nd August, of Aria Jane Daly. Aria is the daughter of Stella Cahill and Simon Daly, who have just returned to Ireland after eight years living in Singapore. All are delighted to have them back!

Now, there are hints that summer is drawing to a close, as the days shorten and preparations for school begin. Church members and Vestries are discussing the document Diocesan Boundaries: Opening the Discussion and preparing answers to the survey put together by the diocesan Working Group that is formulating a diocesan response to the proposals for restructuring diocesan boundaries.

The Mothers’ Union in our group of parishes will be joining the rest of the diocesan Mothers’ Union branches in the opening service for the year at St. Nicholas’, Adare on Wednesday 16th September at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come along, and even if you can’t make it, please remember our Mothers’ Union branches and the excellent work they do in the diocese.

We have a number of parishioners ill at home, hospital or in long-term care and we ask your prayers for them.

Many congratulations go to the Irish team who recently attended the WorldSkills competition, the Olympics for apprentices, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. One of Ireland’s two gold medals was won by Shannon College of Hotel Management student Alina Sile. Askeaton parishioner, Andrew Langford, lectures at the Shannon College and travelled as part of the highly successful team.

Rathkeale & Kilnaughtin Group of Parishes

Rathkeale, Askeaton, Kilcornan & Kilnaughtin
Rector: Rev. Dr. Keith Scott
The Rectory, Askeaton, Co. Limerick
Tel: 061 – 398647 Mob: 087-2885169
Email: rathkeale@limerick.anglican.org

Summer, if that is what we can call the past few weeks, has been a time for people to work on the farms, or if they are lucky get a short break. It is also a good time for family events, all those important occasions like weddings and baptisms. We welcomed two new members into the parish through the sacrament of Baptism, Eliza Langford and Lochlan Taylor. They were baptised in St. Mary’s Askeaton. We are also looking forward to the confirmation of two young people, Evan Shorten and Ali Fitzell. Both Baptism and Confirmation are times of joy and celebration and also times for serious reflection and commitment. We ask you to pray for Eliza and Lochlan and their families as they embark upon the Christian life and for Evan and Ali and their families as they take on a new and deeper commitment to Christ.

Young Grace Power was welcomed into the family of the church at her baptism in Ballyseedy on July 19th. Grace is the daughter of Nicola and David, and sister of Megan and Luke.

Two year old Weston Christopher Webb, was brought by his parents Morgan and Craig from Nova Scotia for baptism in St John’s Tralee on July 20th. May both Weston and Grace know God’s blessing.
The Kerry Festival and Rose of Tralee Service was held on 16th of August this year. A party of twenty were present from the Festival Committee including five of the Roses and their escorts. Our preacher was The Most Rev Patricia Storey who spoke on the Beatitudes, and what it means to be really blessed and happy in Christ.

As the children prepare to start school on 1st September in St John’s Parochial School Tralee, we will welcome Mrs Aoife Dowd the new school principal. The school has had something of a face-lift during the summer, having been redecorated and new flooring laid. We look forward to the new term and all it holds in store.

From the 18th – 21st August a children’s holiday club called ‘Cops and Robbers’ was held in Teach an tSolais. The biblical story behind the four days of games and songs and crafts, was the story of Joseph. The themes arising from Joseph’s story encouraged the children to tell the truth, recognise when they may feel jealousy and to forgive when others seem to mistreat them. All of these were reinforced through puppet shows and stories. Thanks to all our team leaders who worked tirelessly during the four days and gave the children a whale of a time. See page 18 for a photo collage.

NEWS FROM THE WEST
This year the Harvest Festival in Kilgobbin will be held on 13th September at 3.30pm, and will also be an opportunity to say farewell to David and Joy Frizelle.

On Thursday October 8th at 8pm there will be a Service of Welcome in Kilgobbin church for Rev Phyllis Jones who has been appointed House for Duty Priest in Charge of Camp and Dingle. Phyllis and her husband Keith hope to move to Ireland from Bournemouth the week of September 20th. We wish them every blessing as they come among us.

The photos are at the children’s Beetledrive.

Killarney and Aghadoe Union of Parishes
Killarney, Aghadoe and Muckross
Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Simon J Lumby
The Rectory, Rookery Road, Ballycasheen, Killarney, Co. Kerry.
Tel: 064 66 31832 Mob:086-8703997
Email: killarney@ardfert.anglican.org

SUMMER
Although the weather has been a disappointment to date, the visitor numbers crowding Killarney this Summer are making it one to remember for a long time to come. Favourable exchange rates has seen a huge increase from non-Eurozone countries and the town has been booked out for months now. This, of course, has meant a huge increase in visitors to St Mary’s, so prayer requests and Sunday service attendances have seen a remarkable year-on-year increase. Saturday mornings have been particularly hectic with the free windows tours being very popular. There have been occasions during these Saturdays when Rev. Simon, Rev. Brian and Mike have been engaged with separate groups and individuals at the same time. It goes without saying that having a focussed presence to share and discuss God’s Word is very well received and enhances the visitor’s experience of both our Church and the town.

REBRANDING
We are well on the way to completing the rebranding of what we have to offer the visitor and a new “Spiritual Tourism” initiative was launched in late July. The aim is to further increase the number of visitors to St Mary’s by making it a planned stop rather than a chance passing-by encounter. It is hoped that there will be a threefold benefit: to add to the economy of the community; to add to our own economy and to touch the heart of the visitor and in doing so to point to the ever-present God in all of our lives.

BARBEQUE
The annual barbeque was held at Muckross Venture Centre on the evening of Sunday August 23rd. As usual, Meredith O’Connor donned his whites and cooked up some absolutely delicious treats for all – thanks! Thanks also to Lynda for all the organisation. Because it was late afternoon and Kerry had just succeeded in winning both the Senior and Minor All-Ireland semi finals that afternoon, the topic of conversation on most people’s lips turned to that perennially vexing question: where to get tickets for the final. Would readers from other counties please note the contributor’s address for sending them on!!!

WINDOWS
Restoration work on the damaged windows has now been completed and they were unveiled after Holy Communion on the 23rd. The artist – Alexander Vuggs – has surpassed all of our expectations and it is impossible to see any difference between the restored windows and the originals. A special thanks to all who sent messages of support and donations.

CONCERTS
September sees a very welcome lull in the concert season with very few planned. Attendances this year have been very encouraging and a special thanks to all who helped out in any way.

FRIARY GARDEN WALK
We will be organising a walk for parishioners – especially the children – in the Franciscan Friary garden during early September. This is one of the biggest walled gardens in Europe and is a very special place. The gardens are set out to reflect the ethos and life of St Francis so this is certainly one outing to look forward to.
their holidays. The congregation in Sneem are especially grateful to
in Parknasilla for the past 26 years said it is now the highlight of
made despite the rolling clouds overhead. Two visitors holidaying
fun and games over the past few years. Indeed record sales were
visit as they had so enjoyed the stalls, the delicious lunches and the
August 3rd. We had a great day – despite the gale force winds and
Sneem's annual 'Friendship Day' was held on Bank holiday Monday
July and August saw a number of special events, which are turning
social justice event
This event will be run by Declan Crowley. He is a member of the
justice and peace committee of the Diocese of Kerry. This ecumenical
evening will be held in St Michaels Hall on the evening of the 2nd
October. He will have a particular focus on Climate Justice. He has
organized speakers from Christian Aid and Trocaire.

Kenmare & Dromod Union of Parishes
Kenmare, Sneem, Waterville and Valentia
Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Michael Cavanagh
St Patrick's Rectory, Kenmare, Co. Kerry.
Tel: 064 664 8566 Mob: 087 1606312
Email: michael.cavanagh@eircom.net

July and August saw a number of special events, which are turning
into regular summer activities
Sneem's annual 'Friendship Day' was held on Bank holiday Monday
August 3rd. We had a great day – despite the gale force winds and
the heavy showers. Many of those present were making a return
visit as they had so enjoyed the stalls, the delicious lunches and the
fun and games over the past few years. Indeed record sales were
made despite the rolling clouds overhead. Two visitors holidaying
in Parknasilla for the past 26 years said it is now the highlight of
their holidays. The congregation in Sneem are especially grateful to
lan, the son of our treasurer, Olive, who so generously donated and
put up the sturdy marquee for the lunches, giving the whole event
a sense of style and much needed protection from the inclement
weather. In order to make 'Friendship' rather than 'fundraising' the
theme, we always share the proceeds with our friends from Sneem's
Roman Catholic Church, and this year over €2,000 was raised.
The growth of two of our young people's groups made it necessary
to organise two separate trips around Kenmare Bay on the famous
Star of Kenmare – first with the Kids Shed, and then with Praise n'
Play. Of course, picnics and crazy golf followed both! See page 18
for a photo collage.
The Teddy Bear service in St Patrick's was again a roaring (growling?)
success, with Teddies large and small joining us for a very informal
service – but perhaps the biggest event is still to come as we write
– the Charlie Chaplin Festival Service in St Michael Waterville, held
as part of the Film Festival and followed by an attempt to recapture
the World record for Charlie lookalikes. Photos next month.

Methodist News

Adare & Ballingrane Methodist Circuit
Minister: Rev Bill Olmsted
Methodist Manse, Rathkeale Rd,
Adare, Co. Limerick.
Tel: 061 396236
Email: william@olmsteds.net

FOR THE SUMMER
Summer for our Circuit always begins with Annual Conference. This
year we met in Belfast and one of the highlights saw our District
Superintendent elected to be President of the Methodist Church.
The Reverend Bill Mually will be president for one year from June
2016. The conference also re-appointed Rev Olmsted to our Circuit
for another year.

We had our annual Methodist Women of Ireland service on the 17
June and Susie Gallagher from Killarney was the speaker. our MWI
presented their mission boxes for world and home missions.
Our Sunday School came to an end for the summer with a trip to
the Donkey Sanctuary. 20 students and leaders took a bus and had
a great time of fellowship.
Through the year we have had several visitors from Canada, South
Africa, and several States in the US.
One end of Summer activity was a great dinner party for our whole
Church. It was hosted by Sioohhan Wheeler and her son Reuben
in their home and many persons from both churches came-some
brought food to share and all had a wonderful time.
We will finish August with a Union Service on 30 August. It will be
at Ballingrane. We will have Raymond Ruttle preaching and leading
a service for our Junior Missionary Society. They will share in the
service and receive awards for work through the year.
As the summer draws to a close we look forward to helping with the
Methodist Booth at the Ploughing Matches and the restart of our
Sunday School in September.

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You may have noticed an article in the Limerick Leader explaining that Central Buildings won a grant in the KBC Bright Ideas competition. We’re delighted of course and very grateful to KBC for placing such confidence in the ongoing development of our project.

CONNECTING COMMUNITY LIFE
Our new ‘strap line’ is connecting community life, and that is what we’ve been working on for the last couple of years, inviting people to come and share our space, with us and with others. We now plan to make some changes to the buildings to promote greater interaction and interest. The idea is to add a coffee dock to CB1 making it both a gallery and meeting place which we hope you will all use and bring your friends and colleagues. We’re then planning to renovate the old boiler house in the central garden/courtyard of Christ Church and Central Buildings and find community minded artists who will use it both for creating their own work and for engaging others. Next we'll work on the garden. It may be small but we’re hoping it will be a lovely surprise right in the centre of the city; something you’re not expecting to see in the middle of a building on O’Connell Street. Now we just have to begin…….

CB1
Perhaps you managed to come and see the exhibition in CB1 at the end of August – Inkist. It was a beautiful collection of ink drawings by local artists. John Shinnors launched the exhibition and singer/songwriter Yvonne McCarthy provided equally beautiful music with a Limerick theme.

We still have quite a few exhibitions to come this year so do keep an eye out as you’re passing along O’Connell Street.

At the launch of Inkist

HARVEST
This year's Methodist President Rev Brian Anderson will be preaching at our Harvest Service at 7pm on September 27th. Brian’s theme for his presidential year is 'Living as Aliens in a Strange Land' and we’re looking forward to his words of inspiration and encouragement. Please do come along and join us. You will be very welcome.

I’ll leave you with something to lift the spirit. You might have noticed a video clip on our Facebook page. We were visited by members of the Fiji Sevens Rugby team one Sunday morning at the end of August. They were celebrating their win in Thomond Park. They came along to Christ Church to give thanks to God – brilliant! What a positive message to all our young rugby players. If you go to www.facebook.com/CentralBuildingsLimerick you can listen to them singing together – click and enjoy!

Editor: It really is brilliant! If you’re into Facebook at all click and see!

Killarney, Kenmare & Millstreet
Methodist Churches
[part of the Cork South & Kerry Circuit]
Minister: Rev. Karen Spence
10 Flesk Grove, Killarney, Co. Kerry.
Tel: 064 6631613
Email: karen.spence@irishmethodist.org
Web site: www.irishmethodist.org/kerry

Kenmare Lay Pastoral Team:
Ed & Jean Ritchie
Tel: 064 6620580

No notes supplied

North Tipperary Methodist Circuit
Minister: Rev Shannon DeLaureal
The Manse, The Mall, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
Tel: 0505 21670 Mobile: 085 1920 808
Email: Shannon.delauereal@irishmethodist.org

Sunday Services:
10:00am – Borrisokane
11:30am – Cloughjordan on 1st & 2nd Sundays
10:15am – Cloughjordan on 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays
11:45am – Roscrea
7:00pm – Shinrone

The children are back to school; the leaves are changing; Autumn has arrived! With Autumn comes Harvest time. With Harvest time comes hard work and celebrations ... Bringing in what the fields have produced and thanking God for His provision this season through worship, fellowship, and feasting.

With the falling of the leaves and blowing of cooler winds, earth begins to retreat into hibernation. This is a good time to pause and reflect on the changing seasons of our lives. Over the past summer, there have been two bereavements on our circuit and one in my personal life with family back in Louisiana. All three were devout Christians; their faith, witness, and example will inspire us for years to come. We give thanks to God for Sylvia Mahon, Bertha Armitage, and Tom DeLaureal. We hold their families in our prayers during this sad and difficult time.

In the midst of our loss and sorrow, God is with us. In the presence of change and uncertainty, God is with us and promises us a future ... Another season ... With Him. As I enter my second year on this circuit, I give thanks to God for your faith and witness. I thank you for the ways we are sharing life and getting to know each other better. I thank God for the deepening Covenant between the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Church in Ireland. I thank God for the work He is calling us to do. Together, we are the body of Christ, striving to be a beacon of light to one another and to the world.

Faithfully,
~ Rev. Shannon DeLaureal
In March 2011, the Church of St. Paul in West Jerusalem was called upon all churches to pay attention to the needs of young people in the city. He said, “We very much look forward to have a meeting place outside the old city and we are very excited”. In his speech, Archbishop Suheil emphasized the importance of the restoration of this church, which has come in response to the desire and call of the people of the city of Acre, to serve others. “Humans are the most important creatures we have. God has created them in his own image and we must respect their rights and therefore respect the idea of creating an atmosphere of rapprochement and cooperation, an atmosphere that helps the promotion of peace, security and stability for all the people especially in this City. The message of the monotheistic religions is love, respect, promoting tolerance and living in peace and tranquillity. We are one family working together to serve the city in the name of Christ Jesus for the glory of God and the service of humanity”. In conclusion, the AB thanked all who contributed to the preparation of the event and those who attended from Acre and beyond.

I was very encouraged by the youth who participated in this event. First by the Acre Christian Forum Scouts Band and later by one of the members, Vaheh Ardakian, who was the youngest speaker at the event. Vaheh gave a speech on behalf of his colleagues and called upon all churches to pay attention to the needs of young people in the city. He said, “We very much look forward to have a meeting place outside the old city and we are very excited”.

The restoration of churches and revival of ministry in Episcopal churches of the Holy Land is not new to the Diocese of Jerusalem. In March 2011, the Church of St. Paul in West Jerusalem was re-dedicated to serve the larger community of Jerusalem. Furthermore, the Church of St. Peter Jaffa is currently in the process of being restored, to revive its ministry to serve foreign workers and expatriate staff in the Jaffa and Tel-Aviv area.

REFLECTION ON THE ATTACK ON THE CHURCH IN TABGHA

On Thursday, 18 June, I woke up to the news of an arson attack on the Roman Catholic Church of the Multiplication at Tabgha on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus fed the 5,000 in the miracle of the five loaves and two fish. This is not the first time an attack on a sacred place has occurred. Since 2011, 49 attacks have happened on Christian and Muslim holy places, as well as harassment of clergy. These events continue as no one has been brought to justice or even identified. No one has been caught and punished, thus there is no deterrent, so we expect additional attacks in the future, because these incidents are a result of these perpetrators being educated to hate, to reject those who are different from them and to fight them. I went with Archbishop Suheil, clergy and laity from the Galilee to show solidarity, to show that the stones of the church may be burnt or destroyed, but we, the Living Stones, the indigenous Christians, who have kept and continue to keep the faith since the time of Jesus, will continue to keep our faith; our hearts are churches that cannot be destroyed.

When we got there it was devastating to see everything smouldering; the bibles, hymnals and leaflets given to pilgrims. The smell was horrible. We saw the door to the monastery burnt in an attempt to harm the monks, men of peace whose mission is to minister to people, no matter who they are or where they come from. I also saw the graffiti in Hebrew spray-painted on the wall, a line from the Aleinu, a daily Jewish prayer, “the false idols will be eliminated”. It was heartbreaking to see the devastation and it brought to mind the verse in John’s gospel; “They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God”.

But through all this, we are reminded that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. Despite all things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. This gives us hope to persevere no matter what happens. Jesus taught us that we need to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Therefore, we need to pray for those who seek to destroy and burn our places of worship and cause harm to us, just because we are different from them. We need to pray for those who teach hatred and rejection. This brings me to the parable of who is my neighbour, and Jesus’ response that my neighbour is “The one who showed mercy!” Consequently, we must follow Christ’s example and show mercy to all around us, whether they are people who love us or not. We must accept the other as a brother. If we look at the word ‘brother’, it has the word ‘other’ as part of it. The same applies to the word brother in Arabic and Hebrew - is it a coincidence for the three languages to have this? Thus, the others, those who are different from us, are also our brothers and sisters, as we are all created in the image of God.
HARVEST PRAISE

“Shout out praises to the Lord all the earth!
Worship the Lord with joy!...

Acknowledge that the Lord is God...
... Enter His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise!

Give Him thanks! Praise His name.
For the Lord is good, His loyal love endures
and He is faithful through all generations.”

- from Psalm 100

“May the people praise you God...
The land yields its harvest,
God, our God blesses us”

- from Psalm 67

Mouse Makes

Use the picture clues to solve the harvest crossword puzzle, then using the words in bold from the Bible quotes, fill in the remaining squares
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• Grant assistance, bursaries & scholarships available.

Bursaries & Discounts
In addition to the SEC and other grants available Villiers School offer the following assistance with fees:
Hannah Villiers Bursary, Governors’ Bursary, Villiers School Bursary. Sibling Discounts.

Scholarships
Four Academic Scholarships, currently €1,000 per year, are awarded based on the results of the scholarships exams set each May for students entering Form 1. These are awarded to the best Day Girl, Day Boy, Boarding Girl and Boarding Boy.

Prompt Payment Draw
All families who pay before a specified date each semester are entered into a draw for a refund of their net fees for that semester. Please contact our School Bursar for specific information on all our grants, scholarships and bursaries. All enquiries are dealt with in the strictest of confidence - bursar@villiers-school.com


VILLIERS SCHOOL
FOUNDED 1821
CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOL
Headmistress - Jill A Storey M.A. H.DIP. Ed (Hons) DIP. in REM. Ed. (Hons)

North Circular Road, Limerick
Telephone: (061) 451447 / 451400  Fax: (061) 455333
E-mail: secretary@villiers-school.com  Web Site: www.villiers-school.com