



LISTOWEL PARISH
Annual Newsletter

2011-2012

Introduction



I'm delighted to introduce you to our first Parish Annual Review Newsletter - recording some events and happenings in our Parish over the past twelve months or so. I was appointed as Parish Priest here in July 2010, at a very critical time in our Diocese. With the declining number of priests, Listowel Parish lost its curate and we have had to adjust to having one priest working in the parish. So much work had been done in the past by the former priests and I have had to prioritise my workload so that I can give the most effective service to you as your priest now that I'm on my own.

This newsletter has a brief account of the work of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) with information about its membership and role. They have been a great support to me in guiding me to make these adjustments. It has been challenging but I have really enjoyed it.

In Autumn 2010, the Parish Office was revamped and I hope that we made it more '*user friendly*' to you with access to it at the back of the Presbytery. Everything now e.g. all accounts etc. are computerized. The Parish Records are now stored in a special safe in the Presbytery and are available through the Parish Secretary during office hours. The Parish Envelope System was introduced in March 2011, and the system is operating very well.

The changed scene with the decreasing number of priests available for ministry in the Diocese now calls for an increased level of lay involvement in the parish and of co-operation. The whole Diocese is now working on a Pastoral Plan whereby neighbouring parishes work more together and support each other. We are part of Listowel Pastoral Area, which includes the parishes of Listowel, Lixnaw, Moyvane and Duagh.

This newsletter gives some information about aspects of life in our parish and in our diocese. It also contains the financial statement for year ended 2011, with a statement of income and expenditure, as well as the work of the Parish Financial Council. Despite the recession we have been very fortunate to have such generous financial support for the parish and its priests. Your generosity is much appreciated. Also included is a list of all the parish organisations, the list of baptisms, funerals, weddings etc. When I stop and think about the amount of lay people already involved in one way or another in our Parish, in our schools, Hospital, nursing homes, I thank God for the honour and indeed privilege of working in my native Listowel where I came into the world. It is important to acknowledge the rich and vibrant activities in the parish, and some of the people responsible for them.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you sincerely, for all your support and generosity that you give to me. I wish you and yours every blessing. Enjoy the read, and join us in giving thanks for all that is happening in this parish community of faith, joy and hope.

Canon Declan O'Connor P.P.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)



The Parish Pastoral Council is a committee of people who work with the priest to oversee the life of the parish. Its role is to look at the needs of the parish and see how the parish can build on its strengths. It also addresses the different needs of different groups of parishioners e.g. the elderly, the sick and our young people.

It helps to bring the views of all parishioners in discussions. It has a consultative role but also helps in practical ways when needed. It is resourced by the Diocesan Pastoral Renewal Team based in Killarney.

The present Parish Pastoral Council was formed in October 2010, with some former members remaining and some new members recruited. During the past 18 months or so, they made adjustments to the mass schedule service while trying to synchronise it with the schedule of masses in the Pastoral Area. They have looked at the role of having one priest working in the parish, seeing how he can give the most effective service. This has meant looking: e.g. mass schedule, funerals, baptisms, - the service to the hospital, nursing homes, communion to the sick and housebound, the schools etc. We have also looked at how we the laity could be more involved and help in the work of ministry. e.g. visiting the sick, the various liturgies in church, and the 'Do this in Memory Programme' for First Holy Communion parents etc. We are currently identifying and recruiting people who will give support to our families at a time of preparation for baptism and at the time of bereavement as they prepare for a funeral. It is hoped to run a course in Listowel in October to help people who will become actively involved in such ministries. During the past year, the PPC organised the Messiah which was performed by the Kerry Chamber Choir and Orchestra in the church at Easter – and we had a lovely Carol Service, again in the church in preparation for Christmas which was performed by Kerry Choral Union.



Students of St. Michael's College and Presentation Secondary School carry the Eucharistic Congress Bell

LISTOWEL AREA PASTORAL COUNCIL

Over the past two years, parishes across the Diocese have been encouraged to work together in clusters of parishes called a Pastoral Area. We have two clusters in North Kerry. You have Ballydonoghue, Ballybunion, Ballylongford and Tarbert working together as one cluster known as Northern cluster. And we have the Listowel Pastoral Area which includes Listowel, Lixnaw, Duagh and Moyvane.

Listowel Area Pastoral Council

Listowel	Lixnaw
Duagh	Moyvane

These parishes work together, e.g. to train ministry groups such as Eucharistic Ministers, Ministers of the Word, Choirs etc. They also support each other for parish programmes such as talks for Lent, or Advent. Last November, the four parishes co-ordinated the schedule of the Eucharistic Congress Bell.

The priests also give support to each other when help is needed, especially during times of illness or holiday. We have a roster of cover for duty at weekends and for weekdays. The mutual co-operation is to help strengthen the individual parishes while co-operating with each other too. Each of the parishes has their own Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) which usually meets about once every six weeks. Two members from each PPC, or one from each church area meet with the priests who form the **Area Pastoral Council**. They meet once a term - each of the four parishes hosts a meeting once a year.

As an Area Pastoral Council we are continually addressing such issues of concern as: 'co-operation', 'how to engage more young people in church life', 'how to engage those who don't connect with parish or church', 'the fallout from clerical child abuse', and the 'questioning of the Church's teaching on a range of issues'. It is our hope that as a Pastoral Area we would build on the positives of our parishes, reach out more to the alienated and our youth, and provide education and faith training for adults.

Lucy Kate Griffen, Cookeragh.
Lucas Jerard Leahy, The Paddocks.
Cory Michael Horgan Slemon, Moyvane.
Austin Robert Slemon, Feale Drive.
Anna Mary Lyons, Derry
Joseph Christopher Rooney, O'Connell's Ave.
Shannon Danielle Dowling, Stokers Grove.
Noel P. Stack, Cahirdown.
Isabelle Bridget Toomey, Curragh Close.
Eoin Stephen Cuddligan Skehenerin.
Sean Daniel Thomas Keane, Bunaghara.
James Michael Pears, O'Connell's Ave.
Cathal Michael Whyte, Knockane.
Ryan Michael McDonnell, Upper William St.
Lily Walton, Castle Inch.
Tyreece Osasere John Mohapi, Stokers Grove.
Aron Nathan Heaphy, Feale Drive.
Patrick Robert Jankowiak, The Paddocks.
Michael Jeremiah Carmody, Meen.
John David Carey, Willow Place.
Ciara Ann Moloney, The Meadows.
Kate Doona, Ashfied.
Mia Francis Digby, Spain & Coolkeragh.
Emelia Grace Broderick, Gortcreen.
Oisín Tadhg Prendville Brown, Gurtreen.
Chloe Elizabeth O'Flaherty, Skehenerin.
Diarmuid Leo Lyons, Shrone.
Orla Rose Fealey, Bedford.
Evelyn Pierce, Track Rd., Bridge Rd.
Patrick Digant Kamdar, Ballygologue Rd.
Maisie Somers, Knockroe Drive.
Stephanie Saint John, Ballygologue.
Andrew Max Mulvihill, Courthouse Rd.
Mason Ryan Sheehy Elston, Cois Baile.
Ella Ann Galvin, Bunaghara.
Kacie Ann Lynch, Curragh Close.
Nuadha Rían Lavery, Ashfield.
Gemma Eimer Moloney, Derry.
Shaun Paul Murphy, Curragh Close.
Faye Josephine Murphy, Bedford Cross.
Sive Danni Macre, Cloverfield.
Lily Nora O'Flynn, College Lawn.
Tommy Michael Nolan, Beechgrove.
Ava Lily O'Connor, Beechgrove.

Charlie Patrick Chute, Ashfield.
Hannah Maire Hickey, Ballygrennan.
Lila Mary Scanlan, Ballygrennan.
Cillian James Barrett, Greenville.
Niamh Sarah O'Connell, St. Brendan's Tec.
Daniel Wide, England.
Lulas Wide, England.
Geariod Daniel Lenihan, Dromin Green.
Dean Patrick Barrett, Bunaghara.
Shane Anthony Costello, Clieveragh.
Romana Grace Shine Da Silva, Curragh Close.
Blathnaid Niamh Glavin, O'Connell's Ave.
Oisin Ryan Caffrey, Gurtinard.
Sean William Wixted Nolan, Woodford.
Grace Christina Neil, Gurtinard.
Padraig Fitzgerald Beazley, The Meadows.
Kayla Eve O'Sullivan, Cloverfield.
Dylan Colin Loughlan Browne.
Ashley Ruth Doyle, Ennismore.
Delia Mary Doyle, Ennismore.
Janina Helena Doyle, Ennismore.
Chloe Marie Mulvihill, Clieveragh.
Aibhe Marie Gray, Cork.
Michael Thomas McElligott, Meelish Close.
Lily Mary Murphy, Feale Drive.
Sean Edward o Leary, Beechgrove.
Sinead Elizabeth McMahan, Dromin Green.
Rhys Patrick Keane, Ballygologue Park.
James William Doyle, Fourhane.
Daithi Niochlas Doyle, Fourhane.
Joe Daniel Joy, Gortcreen.
Shauna Marie Deady, Cois Baile.
Aoise Noreen Carmel Kennelly, Coolalarig.
Emilia Batkiewicz, Dromin Green.
Cian Michael Walsh, Dirha West.
Ruby Maria Goggin, Dirha West.
Sinead Ellen Barrett, Ballygrennan.
Terence Desmond, Clieveragh.
Leona Pamela Meaney, Meelish Close.
Darragh Michael Kissane, The Writings.
Daithi Patrick Browne, Ballybunion Road.
Mary Jane Walsh, Curragh Close.
Muiris Michael Mulvihill, Bunaghara.
Jay Michael Moran, Gurtinard.
Evan Albert Rodgers, Beech Green.

We Remember In Sadness

Our prayers are with all whose funerals were celebrated in our parish during the year 2011



Helen Galvin, O'Connell's Avenue.

Peter Murphy, Ennismore.

Ned Moriarty, College Lawn.

Tom Lynch, Coolkeragh.

Sheila Loughnane, 6 Crosses.

Gerard Stack, Clieveragh Park.

Hannah Walsh, Church Street.

Noreen Browne, O'Connell's Avenue.

Joan Stack, Listowel & Limerick.

Mai Holyoake, Lartigue.

Mary Halpin, Ballygologue Park.

Eleanor Scanlon, Cahirdown.

Jackie John Broderick, Coilbee.

Eileen Galvin, Dirha West.

Wolf Sobieralski, Ballygologue Park.

Christy Sheehy, Clounmacon.

Lily Crehan-Foley, Cahirdown.

John O'Connor, Clieveragh Park.

Anna Dwyer Sheehan, Ballygrennan.

Richard Carey, Ballygologue Road.

Betty Clancy, St. Brendan's Tec.

Benny O Connell, Patrick Street.

Michael Dowling, Derry.

Maureen Shine, Listowel.

Michael John Collins, Baile O'Dubhda.

Kathleen Halpin, Greenville.

Eamon Keane, Kylebere, Greenville.

John Hillard, Billerough.

Sean Dunne, Kenny Heights.

Michael Buckley, Finuge.

Anne Marie O'Sullivan, Lartigue Village.

Michael Downey, O'Connell's Ave.

Bridie Dillon, Ennismore.

Geraldine Doyle-Dillon, Woodford.

Kathleen Daly, William Street.

Margaret Crowley, Cahirdown.

John Ryan, Skehenerin.

Ned Stack, Cahirdown.

Dan Foley, Meen.

Denis Donovan, Clieveragh Park.

Jim Brennan, Gortcrissane.

Mons. Michael Leahy, Knockanure.

Patrick O'Donoghue, Knocknane.

John Joseph Walsh, Ballybunion Road.

Martin McGrath, Cahirdown.

Sean Wight, Glasgow.

Chrissie O'Gorman, Clieveragh Road.

Joseph Carey, Greenville.

Dermot Buckley, Bridge Road.

Josephine Doyle, Tanavalla.

Patsy Barrett, Killocrim.

Maire Keane, The Lodge.

Kathleen Cody, Craughtoosane.

Ellen Nell Halpin, Dirha Cottage.

Nora Ann McCarthy, Skehenerin.

Patrick Hayes, Gortnaminch.

John O'Halloran, The Meadows.

Kathleen Leary, Raheny, Dublin.

William Doyle, Fourhane.

Anna May Browne, Killocrim.

Tom Keane, Meen.

Sr. Carmel Beasley, Presentation
Convent.

Patrick Joe Carroll, St. Brendan's Tec.

Child Protection – Safe Guarding Children Parish Policy Statement

Our Parish has adopted the Diocesan Child Protection Policy. We, the Parish of Listowel value and encourage the participation of children and young people in parish liturgies, and in activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, and social development. We recognise and up-hold the dignity and rights of all children and young people and we are committed to their protection and support. In keeping with this we undertake to do all in our power to create safe environments for children and young people in order to secure protection, and enable their full participation in the life of the church.

Contact Information: For further information about Parish Policies, please contact our parish representatives at: 087-7614289 or 087-6562353 or 087-1642868

Parish Statistics for year 2011

Baptisms: 89 Confirmations: 78 Marriages: 13 Funerals: 63

Marriages

We congratulate those were married in our Parish in 2011.

Cathal & Maura Anglim.
Sean & Creena Kelly
Derek & Niamh Galvin
John Paul & Sarah McGlynn
Brendan & Marie Lynch
Diarmuid & Marguerite Lawlor
Michael & Sharon Flavin
Robert & Diane Carey
Graham & Margaret Higgins
Thomas & Ann Mary Hourigan
John & Leeann Keane
Ronan & Caroline Gilsenan
William & Geraldine Stack



Our Parish Liturgy Group

The Parish Liturgy Group seeks to do two things: plan for the major liturgical celebrations in the life of the parish; and ensure that our liturgies are celebrated well. Over the past year, the group has been involved in planning for Christmas and Easter, St. Patrick's Day, Corpus Christi Procession and the Annual Examination Mass. They meet regularly and are resourced by the Diocesan Liturgy Committee.

The group consists of: Canon Declan, Billy Moloney, (Parish Sacristan), Mary Walsh, (Secretary), Julie Gleeson, (Treasurer), Sr. Consolata (Organist), Kara Loughnane, Donal O'Sullivan & Liam Brennan.

Parish Mission Bazaar Group

The Parish Mission group organise the Annual Parish Bazaar which supports the missions and various charities. The Bazaar took place on the first weekend in December. Just over €10,500.00 was raised and was distributed among 27 different charities or missionary groups

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The Padre Pio Prayer Group host the monthly mass which includes the Rosary and Benediction on the fourth Thursday of each month. (7p.m. to 8p.m.). In January of this year, a beautiful shrine was unveiled to honour St. Pio made out of a former confession box.

Church Adoration Group

We are blessed to have a lovely Adoration Chapel adjacent to the church. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each Tuesday and Wednesday beginning immediately after the 11.00 a.m. Mass to 8.00 p.m. Each year, for the past five years they have been instrumental in organising the Friars of Moyross, Limerick to run a 40 Hour Adoration weekend in the church.

Divine Mercy

There is great Devotion to the Divine Mercy. This past year for the first time a service was held in honour of Divine Mercy on the second Sunday of Easter. Also, a beautiful shrine was unveiled to honour the Divine Mercy made out of a former confession box.

Lectio Divina Group

These are a group that are scripture based. They meet every Tuesday morning after mass and discuss and reflect on the scripture readings of the week.

Vincent de Paul (SVP)

The Society Vincent de Paul which celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2010 is based at the Plaza - Ozanam Centre, Church. They meet regularly helping the poor and marginalised in our parish.

Medjugirje Monthly Prayer Meeting

Meet monthly at St. Patricks Hall on a Monday night at 7.30 p.m.

Other Groups actively involved in our Church

Parish Choir, Parish Folk Group, Eucharistic Ministers, Ministers of the Word (readers), Altar Servers, Altar Society & Church Cleaners, 'Do this in Memory of Me Programme' for First Holy Communicants and their parents, Collectors & Counters.

St. Mary's Parish Listowel Expenditure Account	Income and		
	31/12/2011	31/12/2010	31/12/2009
INCOME			
Offertory Collection	144730	126101	121333
Shrines, Cribs	9677	1438	5898
Donations	1544	1111	1300
Bank Interest earned	912	411	27
Sundry	3212	3130	1930
TOTAL	160075	132191	130488
EXPENDITURE			
Wages, Paye, Prsi, Sacristan and Secretary	31489	29018	27157
Rent and service charges	768	6650	8450
Insurance	7727	6552	3885
Light and heat	13498	12845	11609
Repairs and maintenance	96811	76368	28697
Telephone	3015	4127	3382
Printing, postage, stationery	7329	9931	2547
Altar requisites	10688	7460	5985
Courses/ Meetings	3033	0	1775
Professional fees	1773	0	150
Diocesan Administration levy	18915	16540	19726
Sick & Retired Priests Fund	2100	2000	5310
Bank charges	1140	1280	219
Missalettes	5208	975	2782
Sundry	1399	6360	7791
New Church Boiler	21800	0	0
TOTAL	226693	180106	129465

Parish Envelope System: The Parish Envelope System was introduced in March 2011. The 'envelopes system' is the norm in all the parishes of the Diocese nowadays. The box includes all the envelopes used for the different offerings at various times of the year. The weekly envelope and special envelopes can be placed on the offertory plate on the offertory basket or dropped into the Parish Office. Some parishioners chose to pay once a year by cheque or pay by direct debit. There are many benefits to using the 'parish envelope system' as we record in a confidential manner (known only to the Parish Secretary) the offering that you give to your parish and priest throughout the year. The big benefit is: should your total offerings in a calendar year for everything be in excess of €250.00, the Parish can claim a tax rebate and if you are self employed you can claim the benefit yourself. The box also includes the Priests Offerings which supports your priest or visiting clergy throughout the year. These envelopes have replaced what was traditionally known as the 'Station Dues' at Spring, Autumn & Christmas & November offering.

Some notes on our Financial Statements:

Much repairs and renewals have taken place in recent times, to the parish buildings such as the church and Presbytery. Some of it is a once off expenditure. A new boiler was installed in the church and the heating system has been rezoned in the Presbytery. Work has taken place to the fabric of both buildings and the Presbytery grounds have been extended. New gates have been installed and fire and security alarms have been fitted. The church toilet has been completely decorated and made wheel chair friendly. It is hoped to install a CCTV system and a 'Loop System' for the hard at hearing during the coming months within the church. The counters room has been refurbished and currently the Meeting Room adjacent to the church is being done up. This will provide a facility for small groups to have a meeting in a comfortable setting. The Diocesan Levies go towards the administration costs of the Diocese and are used solely for this purpose. The Parish Finance Council express sincere thanks to you for your financial support. Your generosity is much appreciated and makes it possible to undertake big structural works without necessary fund raising.

Holy Days of Obligation

There are six Holy days of Obligation during the year.

January 6th, Feast of Epiphany

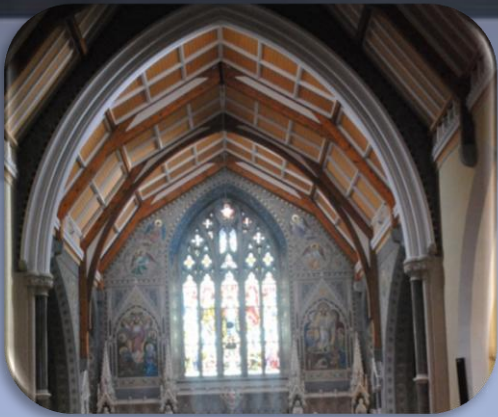
March 17th, St. Patrick's Day

August 15th Feast of Assumption of Our Lady

November 1st, Feast of All Saints

December 8th, Feast of Immaculate Conception

December 25th, Christmas Day



Eucharistic Congress

The 50th International Eucharistic Congress will be held in Dublin from June 10th to 17th 2012. While the event promises to be a very big occasion for those who will travel to Dublin, the real benefit of the Congress will help us to reflect on our understanding of the Mass and how we celebrate it as a community every weekend. By now the preparations are almost ready for this international event. Already we have had the Eucharistic Bell which visited each of the Primary Schools of our Parish last November. The primary focus of prayer at the 40 Hour Adoration this May was the success of the Congress. The theme is: 'In Communion with Christ, in communion with each other'. Many people will travel to the RDS during the week and 45 pilgrims from our Parish will travel to Croke Park to be present at the closing event. Our Corpus Christi Procession beginning immediately after the 11.00 a.m. mass on Sunday, June 10th will kick off the week for us. This year we invite as many people as possible to join us as we follow the route of following the traffic up William Street, Charles Street, Courthouse Road, Church and end up in the Square.

The Parish Finance Council

The Parish Finance Council is made up of a committee of people from the parish that help the parish priest in the administration of the goods of the parish and oversee its finances. They meet regularly and are governed by universal law and the Kerry Diocesan Administration Finance Regulations of Best Practice Guidelines. The members are: Canon Declan O'Connor P.P, Jim Whyte (chairman), Shane O'Donoghue, Mike O'Sullivan (accountant), Maura Joy (secretary) & Margaret Broderick.

Statement of Income & Expenditure for 2011

Offertory Collection

The weekly offertory Collection is taken up during Mass. It the cash you put on the offertory plate and the regular weekly white envelopes. It is used for the day to day expenses and is inclusive of the capital expenditure of the parish. These include: Diocesan levies / Staff wages / Insurance & Security / Light & heat, Routine and capital expenditure / telephone /printing / postage / stationary / Altar requisites & missalettes. The total amount raised in 2011 is €160,075.00. The priests' income is not paid from this collection.

PARISH OFFICE (located at the rear of the Presbytery)

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10.00a.m. to 1.00 p.m. & 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Denise Moran, Parish Secretary, The Parish Office, Listowel Tel: 068-21188

Parish Emergency Mobile (for sick calls outside of office hours): 087 0908949

Fax: 068-23655 E-mail: listowel@dioceseofkerry.ie

Kerry Diocesan Web Site: www.dioceseofkerry.ie where you can check out our page on Listowel Parish and includes the Parish Newsletter each week.

Parish Sacristan: Billy Moloney, Phone 068-21188

Parish Priest: Canon Declan O'Connor



Eucharistic Congress
2012



Kerry Diocese



www.dioceseofkerry.ie