



# THE DUNDALK GROUP OF PARISHES

Dundalk: St Nicholas' Dundalk; St Paul's Heynestown.

Ballymascanlan & Carlingford: St Mary's Ballymascanlan; St Andrew's Rathcor (Bush)

Crossmaglen: Creggan Parish Church

## NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2021

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Safeguarding Trust is the Church of Ireland's policy to safeguard all children sharing in its ministry from all forms of harm and abuse (see [www.sg.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.sg.ireland.anglican.org)). Each parish has a panel whose task it is to oversee the implementation of Safeguarding Trust. The panel members in the Dundalk Group of Parishes are Ken Donald (Ballymascanlan), Muriel Grills (Bush), Debbie Donaldson (Creggan), Trevor Patterson (Dundalk), and Alvin Coyle (Heynestown). If you experience, or are aware of, any form of child abuse through involvement in parish activities, please contact a member of the panel. Contact details are posted in all churches.

### Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

*The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.*

When you get the newsletter we will have started on the Advent preparations for Christmas. Please try to limit your social contacts by avoiding unnecessary large gatherings and shopping when possible at the quieter times.

Confirmations rotate between Dundalk and Drogheda so we hope that confirmation will take place in St Peter's Drogheda on 5<sup>th</sup> June, in St Peter's Church, Drogheda, at 11:30. Parents with candidates please register by email as soon as possible with Joyce.

The sale of the rectory is at an advanced stage and we are still on the lookout to purchase another suitable rectory house with a smaller garden.

We are looking forward to Arlo's baptism which will take place, DV, in St. Nicholas' Church on 28<sup>th</sup> November. May he, like the Christ-child grow in wisdom, in stature and in divine and human favour.

Thanks to Tori and David Browne, our Diocesan Youth Officer we got involved in the BUGS, BEES AND NATIVE TREES initiative and got saplings for all the churches.

A number of young people and parents came to St Nicholas' Church to plant trees there. On Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, we are hoping to plant in Heynestown at 11 am, Ballymascanlan at 2.30 pm and Bush at 3.30 pm. We will plant at Creggan at a date to be decided. We hope to have a number of young people at each venue.

As covid restrictions are still affecting us with social distancing etc, our smaller congregations have opted for carols at one of the morning services in the lead-up to Christmas. In St Nicholas' we are hoping to have a slightly scaled-back carol service at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December. At that service there will be a retiring collection for Women's Aid and the Simon Community.

Heavenly Father, giver of all good things, may your blessing rest upon our homes and families.

Sanctify them with your presence and fill them with love and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas,  
Richard.*

## Services - DECEMBER

### Week commencing 5th

Creggan -	9.30am HC
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am HC
Bush -	12 noon HC
Heynestown -	10.00am MP
Dundalk -	11.00am MP

### Week commencing 12th

Creggan -	9.30am MP & Prize-giving
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am CAROL SERVICE
Bush -	12 noon CAROL SERVICE
Heynestown -	10.00am HC
Dundalk -	11.00am HC

### Week commencing 19th

Creggan -	9.30am HC
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am HC
Bush -	12 noon HC
Heynestown -	10.00am CAROL SERVICE
Dundalk -	11.00am MP

### Week commencing 26th

Creggan -	8.00pm CLOSED
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am CLOSED
Bush -	12 noon CLOSED
Heynestown -	10.00am CLOSED
Dundalk -	11.30am United Service



**Christmas Eve** Holy Communion Service –8pm  
Creggan Parish Church

**Christmas Day** Holy Communion Service –9.45am\*\*  
St. Paul's Church, Heynestown.

**Christmas Day** Holy Communion Service – 10.45am  
St. Mary's Church, Ballymascanlan.

**Christmas Day** Holy Communion Service – 11am  
St. Nicholas' Church, Dundalk.

**Christmas Day** Holy Communion Service – 12noon  
St. Andrew's Church, BUSH.

**\*\*Please note earlier time to facilitate extra numbers.**



**SAFEGUARDING TRUST** Safeguarding Trust is the Church of Ireland's policy to safeguard all children sharing in its ministry from all forms of harm and abuse (see [www.sg.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.sg.ireland.anglican.org)). Each parish has a panel whose task it is to oversee the implementation of Safeguarding Trust. The panel members in the Dundalk Group of Parishes are Ken Donald (Ballymascanlan), Muriel Grills (Bush), Debbie Donaldson (Creggan), Trevor Patterson (Dundalk), and Alvin Coyle (Heynestown). If you experience, or are aware of, any form of child abuse through involvement in parish activities, please contact a member of the panel. *Contact details are posted in all churches.*

As you know, regulations about the safeguarding of children, adults at risk and health and safety have become more and more stringent. To comply with Safeguarding Trust regulations in both jurisdictions, all\* who are in contact with children need to be trained and either Garda vetted (in the Republic of Ireland) or have gone through ACCESSNI (in Northern Ireland). Joyce and Mrs Helen Delahoyde delivered that training in St Peter's Church, Drogheda and St Nicholas' Church, Dundalk. To ensure that everyone is trained, it may be necessary to run another evening in the New Year. (\*All in contact with children includes Sunday School teachers and helpers, youth workers, organists, bell-ringers, representatives from MU and the Select Vestry, clergy and readers) If you were unable to attend on either of the nights, please let Joyce know so that another date can be arranged. Her email is [moore-joyce72@gmail.com](mailto:moore-joyce72@gmail.com) Vetting and training should be renewed every 3 years.

## Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families



Wishing all the members of the Mothers Union and friends Very Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



### ST. NICHOLAS' NATIONAL SCHOOL

St Nicholas' NS celebrated Science Week in November. The children engaged in lots of Scientific investigations.



They were in awe of some of the results. Senior Infants and First Class even made gummy bears grow. Have a look at some of the fun had below!

Our school **raised €232.35 for the Children's Health Foundation** that helps sick children in Irish



hospitals. This was raised through our Halloween 'Trick or Treat' dress up day.



women's aid

This year our charity fundraiser for Christmas is going local. We are collecting for Women's Aid and Save our Homeless, Dundalk. Any donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries would be greatly appreciated.

They can be dropped to the Wellington Hall.



## 12 days of Christmas Word Search



PARTRIDGE

DANCING

LADIES

CALLING

FRENCH

LAYING

DRUMMERS

GOLDEN

PIPERS

DRUMMING

LEAPING

PIPING

SWIMMING

MILKING

TURTLE



## Bugs, Bees and Native Trees initiative

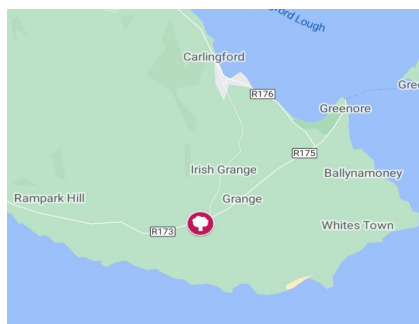
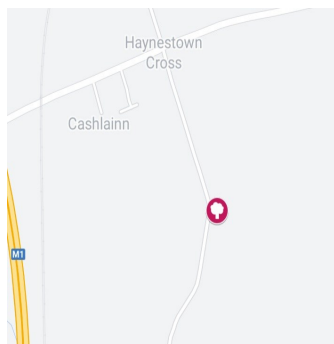
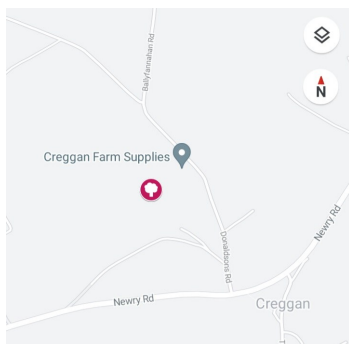
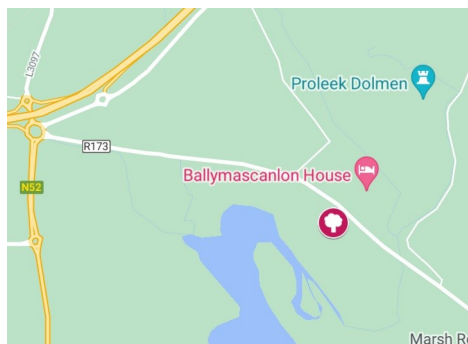
A tree planting initiative which took place on 13<sup>th</sup> November at St. Nicholas parish Church (The Green Church). We also had Prof. Ronan Mullan from the Bugs, Bees and Native Trees initiative to explain the project as well as Church of Ireland's Armagh Diocesan Youth and Children's Officer, Mr David Brown and Rev Richard Moore blessed the children and their planting.

The Diocese of Armagh, the "Bugs, Bees and Native trees" project and Christian Aid (Ireland) have teamed up to plant local species of trees across Parishes supporting children in being more aware of better protecting God's gift of creation, locally and globally.

Ms Tori Eveson of St. Nicholas Parish Church who is committee member of the AYAC (Armagh Youth and Children) in the Diocese of Armagh organized some members of the church from Sunday school, Mothers' Union and the church choir, all helped plant trees and shrubs within the church yard which is part of the "Bugs, Bees and Native Trees" initiative.

The Bugs, Bees and Native Trees, is to support young people and concerned citizens on the island of Ireland to address issues of the environment, biodiversity and climate change through tree planting and environmental community initiatives.

Tori registered all five churches within the Dundalk Group of Parishes for this project and all trees are linked to the website [www.bugsbeesandnativetrees.com/projects](http://www.bugsbeesandnativetrees.com/projects) and the aim is to cover the Island of Ireland with newly planted trees. Our trees are all numbered with a code which is also linked to the site.



**St. Nicholas Parish Church – BBNT36**

**St. Mary's Church, Ballymascanlan – BBNT32**

**St. Andrew's Church, Rathcor Bush – BBNT32**

**St. Paul's Church, Heynestown – BBNT32**

**Creggan Parish Church, Creggan – BBNT32**



## BUGS, BEES AND NATIVE TREES

(A tree planting initiative for Sunday Schools)

The Diocese of Armagh, the "Bugs, Bees and Native trees" project and Christian Aid (Ireland) have teamed up to plant local species of trees across Parishes supporting children in being more aware of better protecting God's gift of creation, locally and globally.

Sunday Schools and Parishes are invited to take part in your own tree planting initiative...

10am to 12noon, 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021

To register your tree planting event and to receive free native saplings, please click link below  
<https://bugsbeesandnativetrees.com/#registration-section>

An information pack and Christian Aid resources for Sunday Schools in relation to this project can be found at...  
[www.armagh.anglican.org](http://www.armagh.anglican.org)



ST. NICHOLAS' PARISH CHURCH  
(THE GREEN CHURCH)

CAROLS *by*  
CANDLELIGHT

TUES 21st DECEMBER  
at 7.30pm



[www.stnicholas-greenchurchdundalk.com](http://www.stnicholas-greenchurchdundalk.com)