

CHURCH NEWS

JUNE



2013

*'For the
Queen trusts
in the Lord,
and through the
steadfast love of
the Most High
she shall
not be moved.'*

Psalm 21:7



Magheracross Parish Church

Message from the Rector:

The two big talking points around Fermanagh at the moment are G8 and the weather. Whilst the G8 will come and go, the weather will have a much more direct and lasting impact. The lack of fodder, and therefore a hike in prices, has been heart breaking for farmers who have built up large herds and can't get them onto the fields. The late cutting of silage will mean that there could be a shortage next year as well. This has put a lot of stress on farmers. They often carry a long held inherited family responsibility and a duty of care to their land and livestock. If they have a family, there is also a responsibility to them and the expectation that the farm will be handed on. This stress is compounded by the conditions in which farmers work. The loneliness of farmers was one such issue raised at General Synod. Where small farmers used to help each other and share tasks, improved mechanisation now means that most farmers work on their own from early morning till late at night. Other family members are forced to find work outside the farm and so the farmhouse ceases to be the hub of activity that it used to be.

Whilst we all have various stresses in our employment and unemployment, we need to keep those who work the land in our prayers. If you are a farmer who is struggling with the anxiety and the mental health issues associated with stress, then be assured that you are taken seriously – talk the issues over with a friend or rector or any of the support agencies who offer

help – don't try and struggle through on your own.

The role of the farmer in the world is the key issue that charities will be campaigning for during the G8. In particular, this will be the focus of the "IF" campaign highlighting that would be enough food in the world if certain things were allowed to happen. www.enoughfoodif.org.

For example,

There is enough food in the world IF land is used for food, not fuel.

There is enough food in the world IF taxes are paid in poor countries.

The main IF demonstrations will be in London on June 8th and Belfast on June 15th. However, there will be a service in the Cathedral (Enniskillen) on Sunday 16th at 3pm at which the Archbishop of York, John Sentamu, will be the key speaker. If necessary, the service will be relayed into St Michael's. It is likely that Enniskillen will be busy and there will be traffic issues so allow plenty of time to get there!

So agriculture farming and food are high on our agenda for June, both at a local level and internationally. Check out the issues and pray with knowledge.

Other news:

Do take part in as many of the Ballinamallard Festival events as possible. I'm looking forward to judging the Bake-Off and sampling a growing number of cupcakes. I'm also looking forward to the Talent Show that David has organised and the outdoor service in the warmth and sunshine of Fermanagh.

Ballinamallard Utd FC

It has been an honour for me to be asked to serve as chaplain to BUFC and I look forward to whatever it may involve. I've spoken to some of the other premierships chaplains and the general advice has been "Go with the flow". Basically its about "being there" for players and supporters – and understanding the off-side rule is not essential!

Sunday School Prizes

The Sunday School Prize Service has had to be early this year due to the Festival Service and the G8. We are delighted to welcome the Director of CMSI, Ronnie Briggs, as our guest for the service. Since Easter, the children have been learning about the world's youngest country, South Sudan and CMSI are actively supporting the development of health and education services there. Do come along and support our children on this key Sunday and acknowledge with thanks the hard work and dedication of the teachers.

Pastoral Care.

From 24 June– 12 July, please contact the churchwardens or Olive Nixon if you need support from the clergy. Charlie will be available after 12 July and I will be back 20 July.

Select Vestry

The June meeting of the Select Vestry will take place on Monday 10 June at 7.30 pm in the Parish Room.

Flower Rota – June

Mrs M Maxwell

2 June – Mrs P Wray

9 June – Mrs M Johnston

16 June – Mrs L Aiken

23 June – In memory of Mrs Coalter

30 June -

Multi-Media Operators - June

2 June and 16 June 2013

Ryan Moffitt, Jami-Lee Guy

23 June and 30 June 2013

Ross Brimstone, Grace Verner

Welcomers for June

Helen Humphries, Megan Morrow

12th July – Volunteers required

Ballinamallard is hosting the 12th July parade this year. The parish will be providing teas on the day, if you can help in any way each for a short time can you please put your name on the sheet at the back of the church.

Services for June 2013

Sun 2 June	9.30 Morning Prayer 11.00 Sunday School Prize Giving 7.00 Evening Service
Sun 9 June	9.30 Holy Communion 11.30 Joint Open Air Service (Fisher's Carpark) 7.00 Evening Service in Methodist Church
Sun 16 June	9.30 Morning Prayer 11.00 Family Service 7.00 Holy Communion
Sun 23 June	9.30 Holy Communion 11.00 Family Service 7.00 Evening Service in Methodist Church
Sun 30 June	9.30 Morning Prayer 11.00 Family Service 7.00 Evening Service in Methodist Church

Who to Contact:

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Curate : Revd Charlie Eames ☎ 077 9219 1565

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Pastoral: Olive Nixon ☎ 028 6638 8483

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Secretary: Liane Armstrong ☎ 028 6638 8618

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Church website: www.magheracross.co.uk