

Diocese of Clogher

PARISH OF MAGHERACROSS

BALLINAMALLARD

www.magheracross.co.uk



**The Church in the heart of the village,
with the village in its heart**



Christ is all, and is in all

(Colossians 3 v 11)

MAGHERACROSS

Magheracross is a compact parish with a population of approximately 800 (340 families) living within a 3 mile radius of the picturesque Fermanagh village of Ballinamallard. It is located 6 miles north of the historic town of Enniskillen on the edge of the beautiful Fermanagh Lakelands. It is a 'single church' parish with a committed and enthusiastic congregation.



History : The parish takes its name from the townland of Magheracross, close to the Tyrone county boundary where the original church was situated. This church was burnt down in 1641. The Church was then rebuilt in the emerging village of Ballinamallard in 1785 but only the tower of the old building survives. The remainder of the church was rebuilt in 1845.

Amenities : In Ballinamallard there is a Post Office, two supermarkets, hardware store, pharmacy, hairdressing salon and other shops. There is also the highly rated Encore Steak House Restaurant, a Chinese Takeaway and two conventional fast food outlets.

Education:

A very successful primary school is in the village with a pre-school Nursery attached. There is another community nursery providing a safe and caring environment for children from 2 years 9 months -12 years of age.

Post – Primary Education : The following post primary schools and colleges are available in Enniskillen, just 6 miles from the village:

They include :

Portora Royal School
St Michael's Grammar
Devenish College
South Western College

Collegiate Grammar school
Mount Lourdes Grammar
Erne Integrated College

Employment : the village boasts the success of Fisher Engineering, one of Europe's leading construction steel fabricators and the largest employer in the area with over 285 employees. It has an impressive portfolio of projects to its credit including Castlecourt Shopping Centre, the Waterfront Concert Hall and the Odyssey Arena in Belfast.

Beatty Fuels, one of the largest fuel distributors in the west of the province, is based in the village and other employment is generated locally by the two supermarkets / shops in the village. The village is fortunate in being centrally positioned between Enniskillen and Omagh where many of the public sector jobs are located.

New Acute Hospital for the South West



On 22 June 2012 a brand new hospital built on a green field site on the edge of the parish is set to open for patients. The 300+ bed hospital in single en-suite rooms will provide a wide range of services and sets new standards for hospital design and amenity. This is a great asset for the parish not only for patient care but for employment and population growth that it is predicted to bring.

VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

The county has a multitude of attractions to interest any visitor in their leisure time. These include – National Trust properties at Castlecoole, Crom and Florencecourt, the County and Regimental Museums in Enniskillen, Marble Arch Caves in Florencecourt. Also, the Ardhowen Theatre, the Lakeland Forum and the Enniskillen Omniplex Cinema are available to entertain the visitor.



Water based: Fermanagh is blessed with many water based amenities whether it be sailing, cruising, leisure boat or fishing. The county is a hidden gem of the British Isles. Lough Erne Yacht Club is a 10 minutes drive from the village and is Ireland's oldest yacht racing club.

Golfing : Fermanagh is spoiled for choice when it comes to golf with 8 courses within a 30 minute drive from the village. This includes the Nick Faldo designed Lough Erne Resort which is a must for all serious golf enthusiasts.



OTHER CHURCHES IN THE VILLAGE

There is also a Gospel Hall and a Methodist Church in the village.

THE CHURCH



The present church was built in 1845 retaining the tower of the earlier church built in 1785. A very attractive Romanesque arch was added to the front of the church in 1904, the gift of Miss Archdale who lived at Brookeville.

The church, which has become an icon in the centre

of the village, is in very good repair having had its roof replaced and the pointing completely redone in recent years.

In 1993 a multi-purpose parish room was added to the side of the church and is used for smaller services, prayer groups, crèches and meetings. It has toilet facilities and serves as a chapel of rest when required.

This summer the church was further enhanced with the addition of 2 new stained glass windows on its western side – one, the gift of Gladys and Roy Fisher and the other the parish branch of the MU to mark their 60 anniversary.



RECTORY

The Rectory is a fine building built in 1881 for the sum of £1150. It is a credit to the parishioners of the time that after the site was purchased and the building completed there was only £150 of a deficit. The rectory is set in a secluded but elevated site in close



proximity to the village, church, school and shops. The building has been improved many times since, most recently in 1998 when a new wing was added providing a guest bedroom, kitchen, utility room, family room and an integral spacious garage and car port. It is currently undergoing further enhancements including the installation of double glazed windows and upgrade on the heating system.

ARCHDALE HALL



The Archdale hall serves as a very versatile parish centre accommodating functions, sports and youth activities as well as Sunday School.

The parish office is also in this building.

The original Archdale Hall was built in 1892 and substantially refurbished in 1981 providing better facilities for the people of

Ballinamallard.

Unfortunately four years later in 1985 an IRA car bomb outside the nearby police station completely wrecked the Hall requiring it to be demolished. The present Hall was built in 1987 on the same site on Baragh Road and is well used by the various organisations 7 days a week.

CRAGHAN CEMETERY

The current burial ground for the parish was opened in 1926 at Craghan just past the Rectory. It is one of the best maintained burial grounds in the diocese and receives much praise for its tidiness from the many visitors.

Burials at both the churchyard on the Main Street and at Magheracross, the site of the original church, have been closed for many years but the sites are still an attraction for visitors.



PARISH ORGANISATIONS

Mothers Union



Magheracross Branch which was founded in 1951 has gone from strength to strength since its formation and seeks to face the challenges to family life posed by changing values in society. Monthly meetings are times of enjoyment and fellowship with opportunities to be inspired and encouraged by a range of speakers.

Far from being a self-serving organisation, Magheracross MU plays an active part in service and outreach through catering for funeral teas and after special services such as the Learning for the Disabled Carol Service. They visit and bring gifts to housebound parishioners and do follow-up visits to the families of the newly-baptized. They serve tea and juice at Pre-School Praise and get to know younger mothers and their children.

The Magheracross Branch of the Mothers Union meets in the Archdale Hall on the 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm.

Girls Friendly Society

The Magheracross Branch has been in existence for over half a century and has a long and successful history in the parish. It meets in the Archdale Hall at 6.30pm on Tuesday evenings during term time.



First Ballinamallard Scout Group

The Ballinamallard Scout Group was founded by the late Henry Burke over 60 years ago. A great many people recall with fondness their time spent at their many and various activities. It has a very strong troop today.



Squirrels (4 - 6 years) are the first opportunity for children to join the family of Scouting. This section was formed in November 2010 and had a full enrolment at the beginning. Six very capable leaders provide a varied and exciting programme with lots of fun activities - story-telling; games;



crafts; etc.

Target Group: Boys & Girls 4-6 years

Meeting Place: Methodist Hall, Wednesday 6pm - 7pm

Beavers (6 - 8 years) have an attractive programme of activities including craftwork; badgework; orienteering; games; nature walks; drama; story-telling; cooking; etc. Visitors also come in to talk to the Beavers and they visit places such as the police station; fire station; zoo; bird sanctuary.



Target Group: Boys and Girls 6 - 8 years

Meeting Place: Archdale Hall, Monday 6pm - 7pm

Cubs (8 - 11 years) work from a structured programme and have a proficiency badge scheme which covers such topics as: handyman; cook; first aid; book reader; and many others. They also do craft work, map reading, orienteering, and also play games. Cubs also compete each year with other Cub Scouts for the County Shield which is based on scouting activities. They also have a football tournament each year with the winner going to the Northern Ireland finals. Ballinamallard Cubs won two trophies at the 2011 finals. They also have an annual camp or a pack holiday.



Target Group: Boys and Girls (8 - 11 years)

Meeting Place: Archdale Hall, Thursday 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Scouts (11 - 14 years) aim to promote the development of young people so that they can achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential. Scouts are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities developing their skills in many areas. Like the Cub section they have a structured programme and also a proficiency badge scheme similar to Cubs. They also take part in outdoor activities like: canoeing; abseiling; hiking; off road cycling; orienteering; camp craft; etc. They have an annual camp and also do trips, eg. Ice Hockey; Outdoor Pursuits Centre. Target Group: Boys and Girls 11 - 14 years



Meeting Place: Archdale Hall, Wednesday 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Explorers (14 - 18 years) provide boys and girls with the opportunity to take part in adventurous and challenging activities. They also help out in the younger sections of the Group, and some members are involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. They have an annual camp and do trips away. Target Group: Boys and Girls 14 - 18 years



Meeting Place: Archdale Hall, Wednesday 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Bowling Club



The Magheracross Bowling Club is a very energetic group who meet twice a week in the Archdale Hall and participate fully in tournaments organised in other venues. They have also got a great reputation for their charity work with the funds raised from tournaments to which bowlers travel from near and far to compete. The Bowling Club meets in the Archdale Hall on Wednesday and Saturday evenings at

8.00pm.

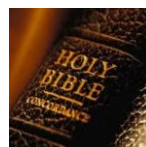
The Badminton Club has been existence for over 30 years meets in the Archdale Hall with a good core of members ever eager to compete with other teams.. They have a good youth policy and spend time training younger members and meet on Mondays - times as follows:



Juniors - 7.05pm to 8.10pm.; **Youths** (12 to 18yrs) from 8.15pm to 9.15pm. Adult Badminton is held on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30pm.

Sunday School classes are held each Sunday during the 11am Service. The children (Primary School age) remain in the main service for the first 20 minutes and are then invited to the Archdale for the teaching of biblical principles in a fun way.

The **Home Group** meets on alternate Tuesdays commencing at 8.15pm , It provide an opportunity to study the scriptures in an informal and enjoyable way.





Pre-school Praise is held in the Archdale Hall on Tuesdays at 10.30am where parents / guardians meet to share each others company over a cuppa while the children have an enjoyable time

A health visitor attends once per month to weigh babies, give advice to mothers etc.

Choir : There is an enthusiastic and talented choir of over 24 members who lead the praise in family service on a Sunday morning. They excel at special occasions such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest. Practices are held in the church at 7.30 pm on Wednesdays.



Praise Group:

A group of youth musicians from the parish are used at selected services to enhance the worship and appeal to younger members.

Creche

There is a crèche available for the 11am Service each Sunday. It is provided in the Parish Room where helpers can enjoy the service relayed from the church while caring for the children.



Lunch Club meet each Friday in the Archdale Hall. This is an opportunity for senior citizens to meet together and enjoy each others company. One Friday in the month a speaker comes after lunch to address the Friday Club.

Prayer Group

This group meet in the parish room each Thursday evening at 7.30pm to consider the prayer needs of the parish, the sick and other requests.



Youth Ministry : A Youth Minister working jointly with the Methodist Church in the village leads many youth activities including Youth Fellowship, who meet in the Methodist Hall on Sunday evenings at 8pm. These groups provide an enjoyable and meaningful ministry to the young and have a growing influence in the life of the parish.

Parish Finance : The freewill offering is recorded using the computerised Omega System and is managed by a part-time paid employee. There is also an office team of volunteers who produce the monthly Church News, annual Financial Report, Orders of Service, Sunday Link and other material for distribution.

Missions : The parish generously supports many missions and charities with approx £20,000 given each year. This generosity has ensured that it reaps what it has sown and the parish is proud of the fact that it remains debt free in spite of its many commitments.

Mission Partner : Karen Salmon has been our Link Missionary Partner in Ethiopia through Cross Links. We are pleased to be associated with her and rejoice in the splendid work carried out in that country. Please include her and her people in your prayers.



Multimedia System : A new multi-media system was installed in 2010 and is presently used for the Family Service at 11am or other special services.

Church Fabric : The parish has a regular maintenance policy on all its property to ensure that it is handed on to the next generation in a better state than it was inherited.



Ministry of Healing : For many years, Magheracross has had a strong involvement in the Ministry of Healing, and services for those who wish to receive prayer for healing are held regularly.

PARISH STRUCTURE

Rector	Curate
Parish Readers (2 No)	Pastoral Support
Youth Worker	(shared with Methodist Church)

Parish Officers :

Rectors Churchwarden	Peoples Churchwarden
Rectors Glebeswarden	Peoples Glebeswarden
Secretary	Treasurer
Health & Safety Officer	Pastoral Needs Officer
Sexton	Caretaker
Lesson readers	Organiser
Parish Visitors	Flower Guild
Christian Aid Rep	Praise Band Leader
Bible Reading Notes Rep	Gift Aid Representative
Diocesan Magazine Rep.	
Freewill Offering Officer	

The **Select Vestry** is active and meets on a monthly basis to keep on top of the needs of a busy parish.

While the Rector and Select Vestry have overall responsibility for the work of the parish, much of the detailed business is delegated to 3 sub-committees who meet on a regular basis for research and discussion on the various matters. They report and make recommendations to the Select Vestry at its regular monthly meetings.

Responsibilities of the sub-committees are allocated as follows:

Finance:

- Freewill Offering
- Expenditure
- Fund raising
- Parish Office
- Voluntary & other workers
- Audit

Fabric - the upkeep of :

- Church building (inc furnishings)
- Church yard
- Rectory
- Glebe Land
- Craghan Cemetery
- Archdale Hall

Church House
Health and Safety

Ministry:

Pastoral matters
Ministry & Youth Organisations
Outreach
Mission

**SERVICE TIMES, SPECIAL SERVICES AND ANNUAL
EVENTS**

1st Sunday of the month

9.30 am	Morning Prayer with Holy Communion
11.00 am	All age worship
7.00 pm	Evening Prayer

2nd Sunday of the month

9.30 am	Morning Prayer
11.00 am	All Age Worship
7.00 pm	United Service with Methodist Church

3rd Sunday of the month

9.30 am	Morning Prayer
11.00 am	All age worship
7.00 pm	Holy Communion

4th Sunday of the month

9.30 am	Morning Prayer
11.00 am	Youth Worship
7.00 pm	Evening Prayer

5th Sunday of the month

9.30 am	Morning Prayer
11.00 am	All age worship
7.00 pm	Prayer for Healing

Welcomers : An adult, assisted by a young adult from a rota to assist the churchwardens in greeting those attending the 11.00 a.m. service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS IN ARCHDALE HALL DURING 11.00 A.M. SERVICE

SPECIAL SERVICES DURING YEAR

Scouts Founder Day - (February)		11.00 am
St. Patrick's Day Service (17 March)		10.00 am
Ash Wednesday (Holy Communion)		10.00 am
" " Service		8.00 pm
Services each Wednesday during Lent		8.00 pm
Mothering Sunday		
Holy Week - united services		
with Methodist Church		8.00 pm
2 nd Sunday in June – united open air service		11.00 am
3 rd Sunday in June – Children's Day		11.00 am
2 nd Sunday in July – District LOL Service		11.00am
July and August - Epilogue	Sun	8.00 pm
<i>(joined with Methodist Church)</i>		
Mothers Union Opening Service	Thurs	8.00 pm
Harvest Festival	Fri	7.30 pm
Week-end of 2 nd Sunday in Oct	Sun	
Remembrance Day 2 nd Sunday in Nov		
11.30 am		
Parish Memorial Service.		7.00 pm
GFS Enrolment Service		7.00 pm
1 st Sunday in Dec – Carol service for people with Learning Disabilities.		3.00 pm
2 nd Sunday in Dec – Children's Nativity.		11.00 am
3 rd Sunday in Dec – 9 Lessons & Carols		10.30 am
Christmas Crib Service		4.00 pm
24 Dec. Holy Communion		11.00 pm
25 Dec. Holy Communion		8.30 am

- have a greater appreciation of, and confidence in, our Anglican heritage and ethos

Our expectations of our Rector:

To:

- have a proven track record of church growth
- preach and teach the Scriptures.
- lead both traditional and contemporary forms of worship
- provide effective leadership in the Parish
- develop the ministry of parishioners
- visit the sick at home and in hospital, the housebound and those in residential care
- carry out regular general visiting
- have an effective children's and youth ministry
- work with the sister churches in the area, mainly the Methodist Church
- support diocesan services and events
- develop mission and outreach
- relate to the local community and be an ambassador for the Church

Challenges for the Parish:

To:

- have the motivation to grow both numerically and spiritually
- increase commitment to Bible reading and prayer
- grow the numbers of parishioners who attend worship regularly
- make faith a way of life for the community
- identify and make more use of the talents of parishioners
- increase financial giving to the Church
- be a Church attractive to all age groups – particularly the 14 -25's
- reach out to those in the wider community of no church allegiance