

MULLAGLASS MONTHLY

December 2023 | Volume I | Issue I

CAROL SERVICES

Mullaglass enters Advent with the first of the Parish group's Carol Service on Sunday 3rd December, at 7pm. This will be followed by Supper in the Parish Hall.

The Rest:

Belleek: 10th, 1pm

Ballymoyer: 17th, 11:30am

Bessbrook: 17th, 7pm

Carols Together: 10th, 3pm
(Bessbrook Town Hall)

ANTIQUFAIR

Our annual Antique fair is back this year on Saturday 9th December, from 11am to 4pm. Along with the usual antiques and curios there will also be local crafts and artwork, so please come along and get those Christmas presents gathered up!

Food will be served all day, so once you've loaded up on antiques, load up on some grub and make a day of it.

HOSPICE

SUNDAY

Please remember to return your hospice Sunday envelopes, if you haven't already done so.

WREATHS

Christmas Wreaths and Posies are now available to order. £10 each, please speak to Gloria, Judith or Michelle to get your orders in.

SPORTS

Our Sports classes will be taking a small break over the Christmas Period. Please note the following closure times.

Pilates

Pilates will finish on the 11th December, returning on the 8th January.

Badminton

Badminton club will finish on the 12th December, recommencing on Tuesday 9th January.

WHATSAPP

COMMUNITY

Are you in our WhatsApp community? This helps keep you informed in real time to all events in the Parish. If not, scan to join.



QUIZ

Big thanks to all who attended our BBQ and quiz, we managed to raise £800!

DECEMBER

Mondays - Pilates Class
7-8pm

David's Classical Pilates



Tuesdays - Badminton

6:45-7:30pm

Parents/Juniors

7:30-8:30pm

Seniors



Sunday 3rd December
Morning Prayer 10am
Carol Service 7pm



Saturday 9th December
Antique Fair 11-4pm



Sunday 10th December
Holy Communion 10am
Carol's Together 3pm
Bessbrook Town Hall



Sunday 17th December
Morning Prayer



Sunday 24th December
Morning Prayer



Christmas Day
Morning Prayer 9am



Sunday 31st December
Morning Prayer 10am

MOTHER'S UNION

After over 50 years, we got the sad news that the local Bessbrook & Mullaglass Mother's Union branch has closed its doors due to dwindling membership.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Every year we donate money to a set list of charities.

At our last Select Vestry meeting it was decided to amend this list. Going forward the £100 previously given to MS Society will now be donated to a different national charity each year. For 2023 we have chosen a Dementia Charity. The £300 previously given to the Diocesan Board of Mission is now going to be given to a local charity each year.

This year we have picked the Kevin Bell Repatriation Fund.

SUDOKU

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Rector's Remarks

The notes for December cover the transition from the penitential season of Advent through the glorious Feast of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ and unsurprisingly the two things often get muddled. I am not immune to that clergy flaw of ranting about how we get it wrong and what we should really be doing as well as castigating everyone about the "reason for the season" - I really

dislike that particular cliché. I would rather not be the Grinch at Christmas and much prefer the idea of encouraging everyone to make the most of this time and here is a straightforward idea that I got from my Mum when I asked her what Advent is really for. Just as we spend a few weeks buying presents and decorations, ordering food and getting ready, so it is with Advent, it is one of our preparatory seasons. We

get ready for the feasting by abstaining and reflecting, considering God and his plan for us, looking forward to the Incarnation as we also reflect on the end times and the fullness of God's Kingdom. Then, having prepared for the Big Day we sing Hosanna and Hallelujah to the Lord "with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven". Just as we wouldn't ever consider an unprepared Christmas

dinner let us not be negligent of our spiritual preparation for the joyous Feast of the Nativity and remember it lasts well into the New Year, hope and light and love from above that is so immense and glorious that we just can't shut down our celebration. May the Peace of the Lord be always with you...

Alan Synnott

Diocese Dive

ARMAGH DIOCESE, CHURCH OF IRELAND

MULLAVILLY
 Friday 8th December
 7am to 7pm
 Rector's Sitout
 In aid of Church Organ
 appeal and Air
 Ambulance.
 End of Rectory Lane,
 next to Church

RICHHILL
 Saturday 9th December
 10am - 4pm
 Christmas Craft and Gift
 Fair
 Colthurst Hall
 40 Main St. Richhill
 £1 Admission (kids, free)

DUNDALK
 Saturday 16th December
 10am to 4pm
 Christmas Tree Festival
 Free Entry
 St. Nicholas Parish
 Dundalk