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Happy New Year to everyone and every blessing for 2012.

Our Christmas Carol Services started with our first Carol Service in St. John's Buttevant on Wednesday 14th December with the nine readings and carols and the collection was for St. Vincent de Paul. Then the Bible Club Children lead the service in Doneraile on Sunday the 18th December at 3pm with the Story of the Sleepy Shepherd and the collection was for Simon Community. Then there was a Candlelight Carol Service in Castletownroche on Thursday 22nd December at 7pm with the collection going to Mission to Seafarers. Then we had our Christmas Eve Services 8pm Mallow and Doneraile at 11.30pm and Christmas Day Castletownroche 10am and Mallow 11.45am. The final Carol Service was in Mallow at 11.45am on Sunday 1st January with the collection for Protestant Aid.

Thanks to all our Organists, Readers, Children, Church Decorators, those who prepared the services and everyone for coming to support all these services and making them all so special.

Concert for Parish Funds

Thanks to all who took part in the concert again this year and to all who helped in anyway to make it such a success. The raffle took place at this and the winner of the Television was a local from Mallow.

Children's Christmas party

Santa didn't forget us again on the 28th December. He came and gave all the children at the party a small present. He didn't forget anyone even though he feel asleep while giving out the presents. Thanks to all involved in this for making it so enjoyable for the children.

Children's Network ministry

Anne Skuse has been asked by the bishop to be the diocesan representative on the Children's Network ministry. This Network is a new body within the Church of Ireland, set up to support, encourage and provide information on relevant training/resources for those who work in the area of Children's ministry. It also

has a long term aim to engage in discussion with CIYD to develop a proposed joint Children's and Youth strategy and perhaps in time to develop a common Children's and Youth department.

Anne would like to meet the incumbent and those in our parish who work in the area of Children's ministry. By doing so she would hope that we would gain an overall picture of what happens in this area of ministry in our dioceses, e.g what models work/what models no longer work, etc and so together identify any particular areas of need where added support, training, or resources would be of benefit.

We have arranged a meeting with Anne on Wednesday 11th January at 7.30pm in St. James Hall. Anyone interested in Children and Youth work please come along.

Mothers Union and Friends

Our Opening Service will be on Tuesday 17th January at 8pm in St. James Church, Mallow followed by our AGM and tea. All are welcome to come to this Holy Communion Service and please bring your suggestions for meetings for the coming year.

West Cork Quiet Day 2012.

Quiet Day on Monday 16th January 2012 in St. Matthew's Hall, Church Cross, Skibbereen from 10:30am-2:30pm. Tea & Coffee will be served from 10:00am-10:30.

Leading us in our Quiet Day, on our theme for 2012 "Your Gift Discover & Celebrate." will be Patsy Devoy, Worldwide FAITH & POLICY CO-ORDINATOR. We would welcome your participation and that of your members, If you would like to join us, those interested should bring a packed lunch with them. Soup, tea & coffee will be available. A contribution of €3.00 would be appreciated. Perhaps those interested in attending would kindly contact us nearer the time, by **Friday 13th January please.** You can telephone us at **028 / 37137**, mobile **086/ 1012152** or Email: jimswanton@eircom.net

Congratulations

Congratulations to Valerie and Andrew Gardiner on the birth of their second daughter Sophie early in December a sister to Amanda.

Also Congratulations to Vivian Wharton on the birth of a grand-son a son to Trish and Cyril Wharton.

Baptism

Congratulations to Megan Ellen Riordan daughter of Barbara and Richard who was baptised recently in St. Mary's Church Doneraile.

Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of Stephen Frank Sweetnam in his 98th year (formerly of Mallow, Dublin, Sligo and Esso Teo.) who died on December 27, 2011, peacefully, in Our Lady's Manor Nursing Home, Dalkey. He had visited us here in Mallow during 2011.

A note from our Bishop Diocesan News and Photo Blog

By now most of you will be aware of our Diocesan News Blog:

www.churchofirelandcork.com

You are encouraged to follow it by adding your email to the followers list. Please also make it known to your parishioners and commend it to them. I should be grateful if you would include the link in parish notices and magazines in the New Year. It is our hope that, over time, it will become an element in improved communication in our Diocese.

Criteria for Submission of Materials to the News and Photo Blog

The DCO and I recently settled on criteria for inclusion of materials on the News and Photo Blog:

1. The person submitting the material for the blog must him/herself be a follower, by email, of the blog.
2. All submissions are subject to the editorial oversight of the account administrators whose decision is final (currently the Bishop and DCO).
3. The blog is for news items and announcements in connection with the Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross including: the bishop, clergy, readers, lay church workers, the Diocesan Council, Diocesan Committees, the Diocesan Youth Council, Mothers' Union, schools within the Diocese, and charities and trusts involving the Diocese.
4. In general, all blog postings must be accompanied by a photograph or image accompanied by full information as to who or what is featured in the photograph.
5. Any person submitting a photograph takes responsibility for it and vouches that, in the case of the inclusion of children or young people, such publication is warranted in accordance with Safeguarding Trust.
6. All proposed postings must be short and carefully crafted.
7. Opinion pieces and letters will not be posted.
8. Press releases ordinarily released by the Diocesan Communications Office may be released in full or by way of link to such releases on the Diocesan Website.
9. Short postings providing a link to more extensive announcements or materials may be included.
10. Materials for submission should be emailed to: newsblog@ccrd.ie

If you have something to be included in the February Diocesan Magazine please give to Diana before the 14th January and if you have anything to put in the February Newsletter please give to Diana before Wednesday 1st February. Email: dianabuckley@eircom.net or mobile 086/1547810 or address Bridgetown, Castletownroche.

DIARY FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Weekday Services in St. James on Wednesdays at 11am

Wednesday 11 th January	Childrens Ministry meeting 7.30pm St James Hall
Saturday 14 th January	Bible Club in St. James Hall 11.30am
Saturday 14 th January	Choir Practise in St. James Church 11.30am
Sunday 15 th January	Inter-church Service in Charleville 7.30pm
Monday 16 th January	MU Quiet Day St. Matthew's Hall, Church Cross, Skibbereen from 10:30am – 2:30pm.
Tuesday 17 th January	MU Opening Service/AGM St. James Church 8pm
Saturday 21 st January	Bible Club in St. James Hall 11.30am
Saturday 21 st January	Choir Practise in St. James Church 11.30am
Saturday 28 th January	Bible Club in St. James Hall 11.30am

MONTH AHEAD

Wednesday 1 st February	Select Vestry Meeting in St. James Hall, Mallow 8pm
Saturday 4 th February	Bible Club in St. James Hall 11.30am

SUNDAY READINGS

8th January (1st Sunday after Epiphany) White

Genesis 1: 1-5	Psalm 29	Acts 19: 1-7	Mark 1: 4-11
Castletownroche	10am		Family Service
Doneraile	10am		Family Service
Mallow	11.45am		Family Service

15th January (2nd Sunday after Epiphany) White

1 Samuel 3: 1-10,(11-20)	Psalm 139: 1-5, 12-18	Revelation 5: 1-10 or 1
Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1: 43-51	
Castletownroche	10am	M.P.
Doneraile	10am	H.C.
Mallow	11.45am	H.C.

22nd January (3rd Sunday after Epiphany) White

Jonah 3: 1-5,10	Psalm 62: 5-12	1 Corinthians 7: 29-31	Mark 1: 14-20
Castletownroche	10am		H.C.
Doneraile	10am		M.P.
Mallow	11.45am		M.P.

29th January (4th Sunday after Epiphany) White

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20	Psalm 111	1 Corinthians 8: 1-13	Mark 1: 21-28
Doneraile	11am		United Service

5th February (3rd Sunday before Lent) Green

Isaiah 40: 20-31	Psalm 147: 1-12, 21c	1 Corinthians 9: 16-23	Mark 1: 29-39
Castletownroche	10am		M.P.
Doneraile	10am		H.C.
Mallow	11.45am		H.C.