



Kill O'The Grange Church of Ireland

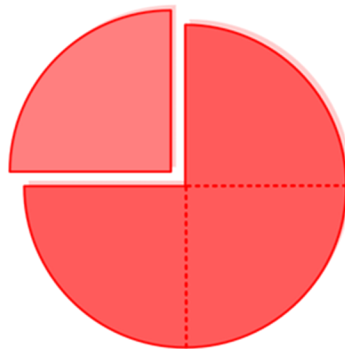
Vol. 3 No. 4

4TH QUARTER

OCTOBER
TO
DECEMBER

2021

PARISH



NEWSLETTER



Artwork by:

**CHLOE
YOUNGMAN**

A pupil at
KOTG School

See page 27.

To Love and Serve the Lord

CHURCH SERVICES



***PLEASE NOTE: Please read the information on page 4.
Online services continue on our website www.kotg.ie: choose
ONLINE SERVICES.***

SUNDAYS (AVAILABLE ONLINE)

8.30 a.m.

Holy Communion
(Every Sunday)

10.30 a.m.

Service of the Word
(1st & 2nd Sunday)

'All In' Service
(3rd Sunday)

Holy Communion
(4th Sunday)

Holy Communion or Service of the Word
(5th Sunday)

Sunday Evening Prayer

OTHER

- ♦ **Daily Devotionals:** Available online daily
- ♦ **Tuesday Evening Prayer:** See page 4 for Parish Prayer Meeting online.
- ♦ **Special Service Booklets** distributed *via* mail by Bert Van Embden. Please see page 6.

RECTOR'S LETTER

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021



All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:3-5)

Often when we think of creation we read the first chapter of Genesis. However I love the picture given to us here in John. God is a creative God and has created us to be creative beings. Which is a wonderful attribute, especially in these days.

As we continue to move forward as a church into new pastures and experiences we need to be creative in the way God has called us to be. So many are exhausted and weary due to all that has been lived through in these last 18 months.

If you need rest, rest. If you need to be carried, allow those around you to do so. Equally, be aware of what God is saying to the church and to you individually. How do we continue to respond to God's call? As we enter Harvest time, let's think of how we can continue to be creative as to how we can be church in this time of continued change.

Blessings,

Alan

REVISED COVID-19 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PARISH CHURCH AND OFFICE

**THESE ARRANGEMENTS APPLY TO OCTOBER.
ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL FOLLOW FOR LATER MONTHS.**

Online Services:

Our online services and daily devotionals will continue to be released on www.kotg.ie

Sunday Physical services:

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion in KOTG Parish Church

10.30 a.m. Outdoor Gathering in the church car park

No booking is needed for either services. At both services, please observe hand sanitizing and social distancing.

Wednesday Holy Communion:

We resumed these services in the church on 1st September. No booking is needed. They take place every Wednesday morning at 10.30 a.m. Please observe the wearing of masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing.

Friday Coffee:

Coffee is served at 10.30 a.m. each Friday in KOTG Parish Centre.

Parish Office:

The Parish Office is open each weekday morning.

Private Prayer in Church:

The Parish Church is open on Thursday mornings from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. No booking is needed.

Parish Prayer Meeting Online:

The Parish Prayer on Zoom resumed on Tuesday 7th September. It will be held on Tuesday evenings, from 7.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Please contact the Parish Office for a link to these sessions. "Prayer is the Christian's vital breath"!

Do You Need Help?

There are volunteers within our Parish that are available and keen to help anyone with shopping or other tasks while COVID-19 is so active in our community. Please contact the Parish Office at office@kotg.ie if you know of anyone who might need this help.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS:

* 20th August 2021 Richard Meates (Died 18th August 2021.)

Richard will be sadly missed by his devoted family. He was the loving husband of Muriel and cherished father of Richard, Jennifer and Ruth, brother of Louise and the late Joyce and Ken, father in law to Anthony and the Rev. Suzanne Harris, cousin to Roly and Heather and grandfather to his seven beloved grandchildren.

* 12th October 2021 Edmund Combe (Died 5th October 2021.)

Edmund was a much loved parishioner at KOTG who brought joy and a smile to anyone who had the good fortune of meeting him. He will be greatly missed by his loving wife Olive, their daughters Naomi and Sonya, their sons Ian and Andrew, and all their family, friends and neighbours.

[* Private funerals for family and friends only, owing to present circumstances.]

CHURCH REVIEW AND CHURCH OF IRELAND GAZETTE

If you have a subscription to either magazine, or would like to subscribe or renew for 2022, please contact the Parish Office. [Contact details on page 31.] They will advise you of the cost.

Church Review: 11 issues, including combined issue for July/August.
Church of Ireland Gazette: 10 issues, including combined issues for December/January and July/August.

Daily Bible reading notes for 2022

If you would like to order (or re-order) NEW DAYLIGHT and / or GUIDELINES, published by the Bible Reading Fellowship, for next year, please contact the Parish Office. [Contact details on page 31.] They will advise you of the cost.



Heather Jackson has retired from the job of distributing these publications. We would like to thank her for her dedication to this task over many years.

CHURCH REVIEW AND CHURCH OF IRELAND GAZETTE

The *Church Review* and *Church of Ireland Gazette* will be available to collect on the first Thursday of the month when the Church is open for private prayer. If you are unable to collect, the office team will ensure you receive delivery of your magazine.

VOX

VOX magazine have informed us that after 52 issues, nine Finding Faith Tours and three major research projects, they will be taking a break at the start of 2022 (after the upcoming issue 52). This move has been prompted by major changes in their tiny volunteer team combined with the seismic shifts brought about by the pandemic.

The Parish Office will forward the final issue (Issue 52) once it is published.

THE STOREHOUSE COLLECTION

In lieu of hosting a Harvest service at KOTG this year, KOTG parish are organizing a donation of food items to the very worthy charity - The Storehouse.

Non-perishable food items or toiletries will be gratefully accepted. All items must be in date.

Please consider adding an additional item to your weekly shop to donate. Food items may be dropped into the Parish Centre.

Many thanks for your support of this deserving charity at Harvest time.

NEW PREMISES!

The new premises for the Storehouse at St. James's Church, Crinken, was officially opened last July by the Most Rev. Dr. Michael Jackson, Archbishop of Dublin.



Parish Centre Reopening: 27th September 2021

With the lifting of some Government restrictions from 20th September, it was a pleasure to welcome hall users – groups both new and returning – back to activities in the Parish Centre! Significant work was undertaken to prepare for a safe reopening and we wish to thank all those who have supported this huge effort, along with Parish Centre users for their patience as we navigate safely onwards.



It has been so joyful to welcome familiar and new faces into our Parish Centre, along with staff and students from Kill O'The Grange School. We thought we would share this feedback from KOTG Bowls which captures the sense of renewal as we cautiously remerge to enjoy our pastimes:

“After 18 months under lockdown the Bowling Club resumed on Monday evening, 20th September when a hardy few got things rolling with one mat down. After a few games, we got the muscles going and found that the skills just needed dusting down. Normal play will resume on Mondays at 8 p.m.”

We look forward to a busy season of activities ahead!

Caroline & Jane
KOTG Parish Office

PLEASE NOTE!

While the COVID-19 pandemic remains with us:

- Monthly services in nursing homes, organized by Bert Van Embden, are suspended until further notice.
- Special services, e.g. Evening Service, have been prepared by Bert Van Embden, and can be distributed in booklet form. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact the Parish Office at office@kotg.ie or leave a voicemail on the Parish Office phone which is checked on an *ad hoc* basis during the current restrictions.

KOTG CHRISTMAS TREES



A message from Seb and Graham Dungan:

The time of the year where we look for your support in our annual Charity KOTG Christmas Tree Sale is fast approaching. For over 5 years we have been supplying you with high quality trees at a very reasonable price. We would love it if you would continue to support us once more this year.

All profits go towards some important causes, including the homeless and the aged in need.

We will have the trees on Saturday 4th December. Exact details, including collection arrangements will be made available closer to the time. For now we would very much like your commitment to purchase an excellent tree which will be paid for at or around the time of collection.

We will have an availability of trees from 5 ft upwards. The owner has assured us of the highest quality trees. You can see his video by using the link below:-
<https://youtu.be/uzLoGVIE4GE>

We need to know how many trees to order and so would appreciate a response to KOTGChristmasTrees@gmail.com to order your tree. There are three sizes to choose from, Small (5—6 ft, €40), Medium (6 —7ft, €45) or Large (over 7 ft, €50). Delivery to your house in the local area will be possible at €15 extra.

Please spread the word to anyone else you may be getting a tree including a note on any of your WhatsApp or Facebook groups.

Your support is very much appreciated.

PASTORAL VISITS

Pastoral visits at bedsides, in homes, in nursing homes and hospitals are taking place by 'phone call instead of through personal visits during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you know of anyone who would like to be contacted by 'phone, please use the numbers below.

If you know of anyone who would like a pastoral visit, please contact us by 'phone or e-mail (details below.) The Rector and Bert Van Embden will follow up on all requests received.

Bert Van Embden – Lay Pastoral Worker

Tel. (Mobile): (087) 063 8772

Tel.: (Parish Office): 289 6442 E-mail: office@kotg.ie

Meet Scott Evans!



We are very excited that Scott Evans joined us on placement at the end of August. He is currently studying with a view to Ordination.

Scott will be with us for a few months, joining in our indoor services, outdoor Sunday Gatherings and other parish activities.

Welcome, Scott!

**Scott reading the Lesson at our
Sunday Gathering,
on 29th August 2021.**

[Photo: James Darling]

SADNESS AND JOY

We extend our deepest sympathies to Bruce Johnson and his family, on the sad passing of Bruce's mother Elinor (née Boyce) on 2nd September. A private funeral took place on 7th September.

Only a week before, the Johnson family welcomed the arrival of Elinor's second great-grandchild: Tadhg Robert Johnson was born on 26th August to Will and Kathleen, a brother for Fred.

South Sudan News:

Greetings from Bishop Levi Marandulu



On his eighth day as the third Bishop of Yei, Jenny Smyth and Linda Abwa [CMS Ireland] were delighted to be able to speak to Bishop Levi via Zoom. It is exciting to be able to introduce him to you too, in this video greeting he made for us:

“Thank you so much. I am the Right Reverend Levi Marandulu Yepete, the third Bishop of the Diocese of Yei.

I am grateful to have this moment to pass my appreciation and thanksgiving to CMS Ireland, and to all the partners who have been standing and supporting the Diocese of Yei for a long period of time. I really want to thank you for all that you have done.

We will keep in touch. We will keep praying and supporting each other. We pray that one day God will bring us together—we will meet and discuss many things. I promise we will always walk together, supporting each other. Thank you so much. God bless you.”



As we walk forward in partnership with Yei Diocese we also asked Bishop Levi to share his priorities for the Diocese:

- **Vision:** A United and Holistically Transformed God's People
- **Mission:** To Evangelize and Equip for a Holistic Transformation of God's people in Yei and beyond.
- **Priorities:**
 - ▶ Capacity building and training: building the capacities of the church leaders at all levels in all departments and training for young people returning from camps;
 - ▶ Evangelism and Discipleship: strong biblical teaching to reach even the most rural of areas;
 - ▶ Income Generating Projects: focusing on the rural areas to develop Archdeaconries and parishes.

Keep praying for Bishop Levi and for the exciting way ahead in partnership!

Linda Abwa

This article and image were adapted from the CMS Ireland website cmsireland.org. You can watch the video of Bishop Levi's message there.

A PRAYER FOR OUR FRIENDS IN SOUTH SUDAN

We remember in our prayers Bishop Levi as he takes up the challenging task of leading the Lord's people in Yei. We pray for his wife, Mama Agnes.

We pray also for his predecessor Bishop Hilary and his wife Mama Joyce, good friends in Jesus Christ, as they enjoy a well-earned and peaceful retirement.

Lastly and by no means least, we pray for the Rev. Cosmas Gwagwe, currently in Uganda, and all his family, at a time of considerable unrest and disruption.

Stewardship Scheme

The stewardship envelopes for 2022 will soon be available.

Please contact the Parish Office at office@kotg.ie if you wish to obtain envelopes for the coming year.

SAFEGUARDING TRUST

Please note that all children and teens must have fully completed a consent form in order to attend their respective group. Kill O'The Grange fully complies with the Church of Ireland's **Safeguarding Trust Policy** for the protection of children and young people under 18 in our care. Details are available on our website and upon request.

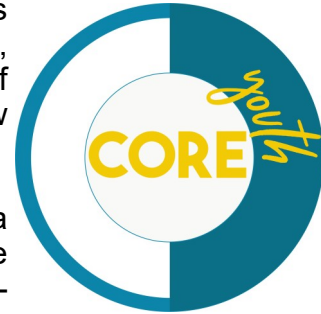




Youth Clubs

We hope you have all had a lovely summer! We ended ours with Youth Week, a week full of fun, activities and, of course, learning more about God. There was lots of enjoyment and good discussion had, leaving us ready for new academic year to come!

We have had a few weeks rest, but Core is back! Core is a youth group for teens in Secondary School which takes place over the first 3 Saturday evenings of every month from 7.30-9.30 p.m. If you have a teen that would like to be involved, please contact our **Youth Pastor, Johno Byford**, either by e-mail to youth@kotg.ie or by 'phone/WhatsApp to (089) 436 2287.



As part of Core, we run a Weekend Away with the youth group in November. Prayer that this can go ahead, and, as always, be a weekend full of fun, fellowship and learning would be greatly appreciated.



Core's Summer trip to the Zoo, July 2021

[Photo: Jonathan Byford]



Children's Ministry

We hope you have all had a wonderful beginning to the academic year. We have been delighted to welcome back both Kids' Club and Maxpack in person, after a lengthy break.

While Kids' Club was on regularly online over the past year, being able to meet once again in person is a joy. Kids' Club will be on Thursday evenings from 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. down in the Parish Hall. This is open to Primary School aged children of all ages. Kids' Club is a place for children to learn about God, have fun and enjoy being part of a community with their peers.

Our projected Kids' Club dates are:

October 14th & 21st; November 4th, 11th & 18th; December 2nd & 9th.

Maxpack has not been able to meet for over a year, so we are ecstatic to be back once more. Maxpack is a youth group for 5th and 6th classers. This takes place fortnightly on Friday evenings from 7.30-9.00 p.m. We enjoy plenty of activities around the core aspect, to learn more about God.

Prayer that both of these ministries can continue to run smoothly would be a big help.

If you would like to learn more about either of these ministries, or if you have any other questions or queries, please contact **Seb Dungan**, either by e-mail to children@kotg.ie or by phone/WhatsApp to (089) 472 3063.

The logo for Sunday Club features the words 'SUNDAY CLUB' in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right.

The logo for Maxpack features the word 'Maxpack' in a green, bubbly, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right. To the right of the text is a stylized yellow star with a green outline.

The logo for Creche features the word 'CRECHE' in a multi-colored, sans-serif font. The letters are green, blue, purple, and red. To the left of the word is a cartoon bear holding a book labeled 'HOLY BIBLE'. To the right is a cartoon girl with a star on her head.

The logo for Messy Church features the word 'MESSY' in a white, bold, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right. Below it, the word 'Church' is written in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a red, splatter-like background.

SOME IMPORTANT CHRISTIAN EVENTS: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

October

Harvest: This is the time when we especially praise the Lord for his abundant gifts to us. He sustains the earth for his creation: human beings, plants and animals. We usually associate harvest with the area of agriculture, but there is also manufacturing industry which provides us with clothing, warmth for our homes and tools of many kinds for our use.

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. (2 Corinthians 9:10, ESV)



November

All Saints Day: On 1st November we think of that great company of saints who have gone before us, and who have witnessed to their faith, despite hardships and persecution.

“For all the saints, who from their labour rest.”

Remembrance: 14th November this year is Remembrance Sunday, when we thank the Lord for all those who have sought to make a better world even through giving up their lives for others.

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:13 ESV)



Advent: We think of John the Baptist, that great forerunner for Jesus who is Emmanuel, God with us. Isaiah and Malachi prophesied of John’s coming.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. (John 1:5, ESV)

December

Christmas Day: Truly this is a time of great celebration—’God in man made manifest.’ We can only wonder at this great act of God in sending His only begotten Son to live and die among us, for our salvation.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16, ESV)



Saint Stephen’s Day: The book of Acts tell us of Stephen, the first Christian martyr—Acts 7:1-8:2.)

KIDS' PAGE

Jacob had 12 sons and 1 daughter Dinah. Read all about them in *Genesis*, the first book of the Bible.



Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH

JACOB'S FAMILY

A Y J D J P O S F L E V I X D K I X R P
G A D A Z N O J R O K B X E O F B J V P
R S Z B C X O Z T Q I L L I H L I D B D
M A O P P O P E S N A K P D Z E L I I G
L N C U Z P B B N V K F M Y F A H N B I
V H M H L L L U A G V D S M O H A A O X
K C L N E Z Q L P S N J G T V J H H E Z
B U K D N L P U H N C J S K K P H M S L
G J O S E P H N T Q R U L E A H A A A D
C Q T H H R Q S A Y K D V E K F T F U X
R X J B N N U M L E L A U L W H B K G F
X D A I E N Y K I I R H O F Q W E C T O
U U J Z I L P A H N P M A R E U B E N K
P U Y F H Q B C A S H E R X U Y J I L O
N L A B A N L Q Q J I S S A C H A R P D
A Q I H C F S G G X N H W R K E O F D W
B W W S I M E O N C S W U T L A P R A L
X H T J S Y N W H I L R S G D Q P V N Q
X U J J X X F H Y Z A N O X M R O X I D
P B E N J A M I N S W Q E E P Q S U C M

BENJAMIN
ZILPAH
JACOB
LEAH
JUDAH
BILHAH
ZEBULUN

JOSEPH
NAPHTALI
LEVI
REUBEN
SIMEON
ISSACHAR

RACHEL
ASHER
DAN
ESAU
LABAN
GAD
DINAH

For more free Bible resources and Teacher Packs including coloring pages, worksheets, quizzes and more visit our website at:
www.biblepathwayadventures.com



Parish Prayer Diary 2021



1st—9th October

We pray for our country as we continue to come out of the pandemic, we pray for all who were involved in the care of people with COVID and thank them for their care.

10th—16th October

Harvest Time: We thank You, Lord, for Your bountiful goodness to us. We thank You for all You have provided for us and a safe recovery from COVID.

17th—23rd October

We pray for our parish and all its organizations as they restart after COVID and face fresh challenges.

24th—30th October

This week we pray for all schools and colleges as they are on half term. We pray for all teachers and assistants. We pray for all who are currently taking a holiday.

31st October—6th November

We pray for our parish this week. We pray especially for who are known to us and have suffered a bereavement during the year.

7th—13th November

We continue to pray for the parish this week, remembering those who work in the Office: Jane and Caroline . We think of Johno and Seb who work with the youth. we also think of our Lay Readers Bert, Blair and David.

14th—20th November

This week is a time of remembrance: we remember all those who have fought in any war and laid down their lives for their country. We remember you all.

The rota of prayers for Parishioners is on page 18.

Parish Prayer Diary 2021



21st—27th November

We remember the wider church. Currently we think of all Bishops and Priests, and we think especially of the Dioceses of Tuam and Limerick as they prepare to amalgamate and elect a new Bishop.

28th November—4th December

The season of Advent begins this week. We start the build up to the most important day of the year, Christmas Day. Don't be distracted by the retail outlets and their decorations and follow the Advent Journey.

5th—11th December

This week we pray for our Rectory family: we remember Alan, Ruth, Naomi and Andrew. Lord, we ask You to bless them and their ministry to us.

12th—18th December

We pray for all who are lonely at this time of year. Those who are sick. Those who are in hospital or awaiting operations. Lord just be with them and bestow Your healing hand upon them.

19th—25th December

Christmas

Hallelujah!! Jesus Christ is Born!! Rejoice, the Saviour has Come !!

26th—31st December

We give You thanks for the birth of Your Son. We give You thanks for all the fellowship and the joys we had over Christmas. We give You thanks for all the presents we got.

Many thanks to **Peter Rooke**, who has written this Prayer Diary.

Prayer Diary

October—December 2021

Pray for:

Philip and Valerie Osborne; Ian and Roseane Packham, and Thiago Ray; Amanda Packham; Pamela Packham; Olive Packham; Claire Patterson; Patricia Pearson; Stuart and Caroline Plascott, Ciara and Charlotte; Henry and Rachel Pollard; Letitia Pollard; John and Lynda Priestley, and Jessica; Matthew Priestley; Patrick Quinlan; Elaine O'Donoghue and Max; John Reid; Nicolas and Selene Revland, Mimi and Finn; Luca Revland; Leslie and Liz Richards; James Richards; Rebecca Richards,

Sarah Richards; Suzanne Richards, and Max; Avril Richardson and Michael Kahoot, and Lily; Beata Riehn; John Riseley; Andrew Nangsha and Shangdar Ronglo, Lorraine and Chaandrouy; Peter Rooke; Stephen and Sonya Ross, and Aaron; Brianna Ross; Mackenzie Ross; Tim and Claire Roulston; Jonathan Baum and Karen Ruddock; Maya Baum; Rachel Baum; Karl and Cathryn Schäckermann, Ryan and Emma; Uli and Pauline Schäckermann; Derek Scott; Simon and Tam Scott, Micaiah Samuel and Aviyah Eliora.

Stuart and Susan Scott, and Benjamin; Tim and Claire Silk, Hope, Jade, Jonah and Fleur; David and Hilda Shepherd, Anna, Sophie and Sarah; Philip and Shirley Smith; Desmond Smith and Mary Denvir; Giles Smyth and Madelaine McMahon, and Ezra; Gordon Smyth; Norman and Sylvia Smyth; Sara Stevenson and Conor Kavanagh, Imogen and Sylvia; Des Stronge; Robin and Carolanne Sutton, and Ethan; Marcus and Alice Swift; Keith and Louise Syms, Henry and Chloe Nicola; David Taylor; Ngor Tong; Apiok Tong; Kuol Tong.

Awor and Dier Tong, and Ngok; George Tuthill; Graham and Claire Tynan; Bert Jan Van Embden; Patrick Waldon and Sonya Green, Eoghan, Amelia and Gabrielle; Jason Waldron; Alan and Miriam Walker, and Patrick; Janet Walsh; Jocelyn Ward; Eddie and Shirley Watchorn; Olive Waugh; Ernest and Barbara Webb; Brian Weir; David and Mary Williams; Joan Williams; Michael and Debbie Williamson, Megan, Hayley and Jessica; Simon and Glynis Wilson-Moore, Ben, Aimee and Joshua; Lewis and Jane Winning, Toby and Robyn; Pauline Woods; Arthur Young; George and Deirdre Young; Hazel Young.

Pause for Thought

The most important task of the Church is to be the visible witness of the invisible Kingdom.

John Calvin (1509—1564)



CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

Team Hope's Christmas Shoebox Appeal is an annual campaign that delivers gifts straight into the hands of children affected by poverty. Often these shoebox gifts are the only gift that a child will receive at Christmas and the joy that they bring is incredible. Since 2010, with your help, we have delivered over 2.1 million Shoebox gifts to Vulnerable Children across the world.

This year, we're asking everyone to get their Christmas Shoeboxes to us by **8th November**.

Full details can be found on:

https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas/shoebox_appeal

The Christmas Shoebox Appeal Manager is Jonathan Douglas, a former youth leader at Kill O'The Grange Parish Church.



The Olaakas

FROM GILL AND CARLOS OLAAKA IN UGANDA

September 2021

Dear KOTG family,

Hello to the KOTG family, with a special sense of connectedness that we feel after our recent visit; it was just fantastic to be able to share and meet with many of you just a few weeks ago. It was overall such a joy to spend time in Dublin after 4 years for Gill, and 6 years for Josiah and Judah – though it has been nice to be back in the Ugandan heat (it seems our visit was right in between the two heatwaves Ireland has enjoyed!). We loved every minute of our time, not least spending time with Mum and Dad in the context of their ‘new life’, and are so grateful for many people within the KOTG family who continue to offer them great support. Coming back to Uganda involved mixed feelings, as always, of saying goodbye to one home and returning to another one; but we try to be thankful that we do have two places we can call home, albeit very different. We found Carlos well (definitely him being here to meet us at the airport made the return far easier!), and the boys’ robust excitement at sharing all about the trip quickly made up for any quiet or loneliness he had felt by being home alone! The boys have started schooling again, at home, with a teacher coming as she did for the last academic year that ended in June, so we are grateful for her and some stability in their education.

As I noted in my last news update, schools closed in Uganda on 7th June, due to increasing COVID-19 rates, and unfortunately they have not yet opened up, with no clear roadmap for when children may study in school environments again. It is extremely difficult for many families, as educational resources are few and online access is very limited. Children in villages have all but forgotten what schooling is, particularly for those in the pre-primary to third class range, as they have not been in a classroom since March 2020 (schools opened in phases from late 2020, but younger ones have yet to return). COVID-19 rates have gone down, thankfully, which have meant a lifting of some restrictions, but churches and schools remaining closed has been heart-breaking for many people, including us. What little communication there has been from the government has focused on the need to increase our vaccination cover, before schools and churches can open, but unfortunately the progress is still very slow. There have been 120,000 cases of COVID-19, reportedly, with around 3,000 deaths, and 1.5m vaccines given, in a population of approximately 45m. It is sobering and challenging to see how we will move forward, so we do ask for prayer for wisdom for our Government and for peace and patience as we continue in this season of partial lockdown.

Continued on next page.

From Gill and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda

[Continued from previous page]

At Abaana, school closure has been difficult, especially with so many children coming from rural communities so our staff are unable to meet with them or check how they are doing, especially as when the full lockdown was in effect, staff were unable to move for around 2 months, as cars were banned. Now there is some allowance for travel, but still there are challenges in meeting children as their residences are scattered around school communities, and often quite inaccessible. We have been sending out some learning materials, as well as connecting with children through local teachers where possible. We were also very fortunate that we were able to run another successful COVID-19 emergency appeal campaign, in which families were given food relief and soap to assist them during the lockdown. Approximately 800 families have benefited from this so far, as well Abaana once again supporting an emergency hostel for street-connected children. It is a real blessing to have offered a little support to people in need, including some of the children who travelled with the choir.

Parvin stays with her grandmother, who, although she has many grandchildren to look after, has a great attitude; when asked how she was coping she said: “yes, we don’t have enough but God is providing: whatever we get from the garden, that is what we eat. We are privileged we have some little food from the garden.” Sometimes the family would eat a simple meal of some kind of carbohydrate that was grown (such as a root vegetable or perhaps maize meal) with not much else but water for a meal. With the first package of support from Abaana, they were able to have beans and rice for at least 3 weeks, to at least see them through the worst of the lockdown (choir children received a support package twice within 10 weeks).

Support in terms of hygiene supplies like bleach and gloves, as well as handwashing cans, were also given to various health centres to assist the overwhelmed healthcare workers during the peak of the COVID-19 cases. We are very thankful to all those who have given in support of these appeals, and just pray that families will be able to stabilise in time.

At New Life Homes, in general the boys are doing well, and continue with home school as well as accessing various extracurricular activities, including counselling and discipleship classes online. We have had a number of cases where a child has returned to the homes after a period of visitation with family, mainly due to poor living conditions. One boy, we shall call ‘H’, who has been resident at the New Life Homes for 2 years, had gone, at his request, to stay with his mother for a home visit during lockdown. However, he had a very difficult time when his mother turned to alcohol due to the pressures of life during lockdown, and it was also revealed to him that she was not sure who his biological father was (there are two possibilities).

A paternity test is planned to help the boy understand his background and hopefully find an alternate home for him, through relatives of his father (as extended family care is common here), while we try to provide counselling to his mother. These kind of situations are extremely delicate and we do appreciate prayer as we try to help broken families heal and mend.

Continued on next page.

From Gill and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda

[Continued from previous page]

We do hope and pray that as you all continue into Autumn and Winter that the pandemic remains manageable within Ireland and that schools can remain open, and further progress can be seen in relative 'normality'. We do greatly appreciate the prayers and support offered to us and wish you all the very best in every way. Hopefully, next visit Carlos can come too (it was too difficult to get a visa in time, for this one).

Love,

Carlos, Gill, Josiah and Judah

Please pray:

- For Uganda's leaders especially in the Ministry of Education to know the best way forward for COVID-19 containment in Uganda.
- For continued protection and wisdom for Abaana staff as we figure out the best way to support our sponsored children in this current lockdown and what activities to prioritise over the rest of the year.
- For the NLH boy, H, and his mother, that we would be able to support the family and that he would find a stable place to call home, with a suitable care-giver.



Health centre support

Continued on next page.

From Gill and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda

[Continued from previous page]



Some of the learners in class—social distance observed –prior to school closure



[Photos in this article: Gill Olaaka]

COVID food relief

Gill Olaaka in Ireland



Gill with Judah (left) and Josiah

[Photo: Gill Olaaka]



Gill and the Rector at the Kill O’The Grange Sunday Gathering,
22nd August 2021—Socially Distanced!

[Photo: James Darling]

Gill Olaaka in Ireland



After the Sunday Gathering at Kill O’The Grange, 22nd August 2021—
Gill with Judah (left) and Josiah.

[Photo: James Darling]

During August we were delighted to welcome back Gillian Olaaka, who for many years has been working with the children’s organization Abaana in Uganda.

We were especially glad that she brought her sons Josiah (10) and Judah (7) with her. She spoke at our Sunday Car Park service on 22nd August and at a service of Holy Communion.

Our Mission Contacts

Bishop Levi Marandulu Yepete —Yei, South Sudan:

yei.anglican.org

Gillian and Carlos Olaaka—Uganda:

gillolaaka@yahoo.co.uk

Rev. Ken Gibson—Mission to End Leprosy:

ken@kengibson.ie

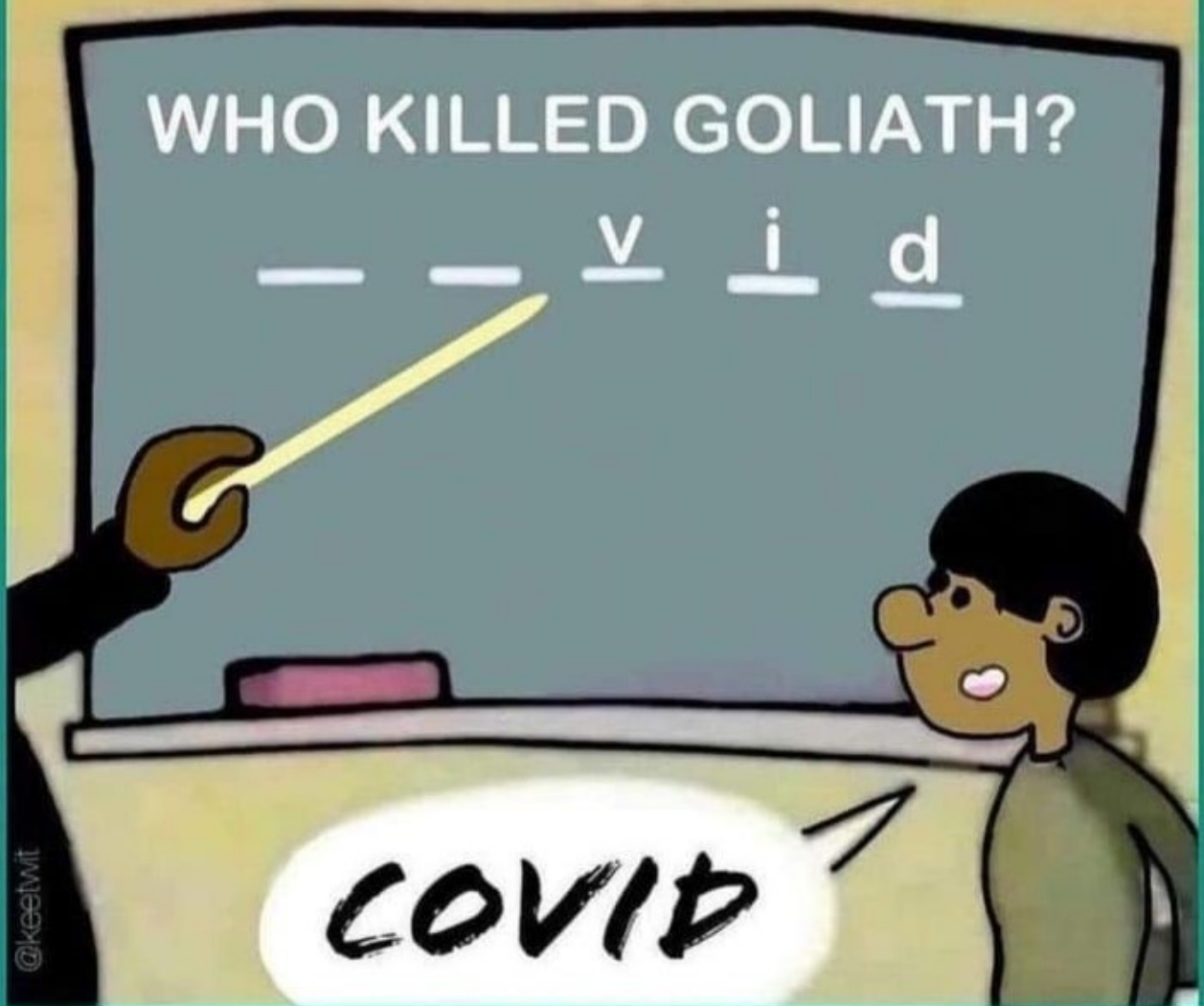
On a Lighter Note...



WHEN YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR CHURCH IN A WHILE...

WHO KILLED GOLIATH?

— — v i d



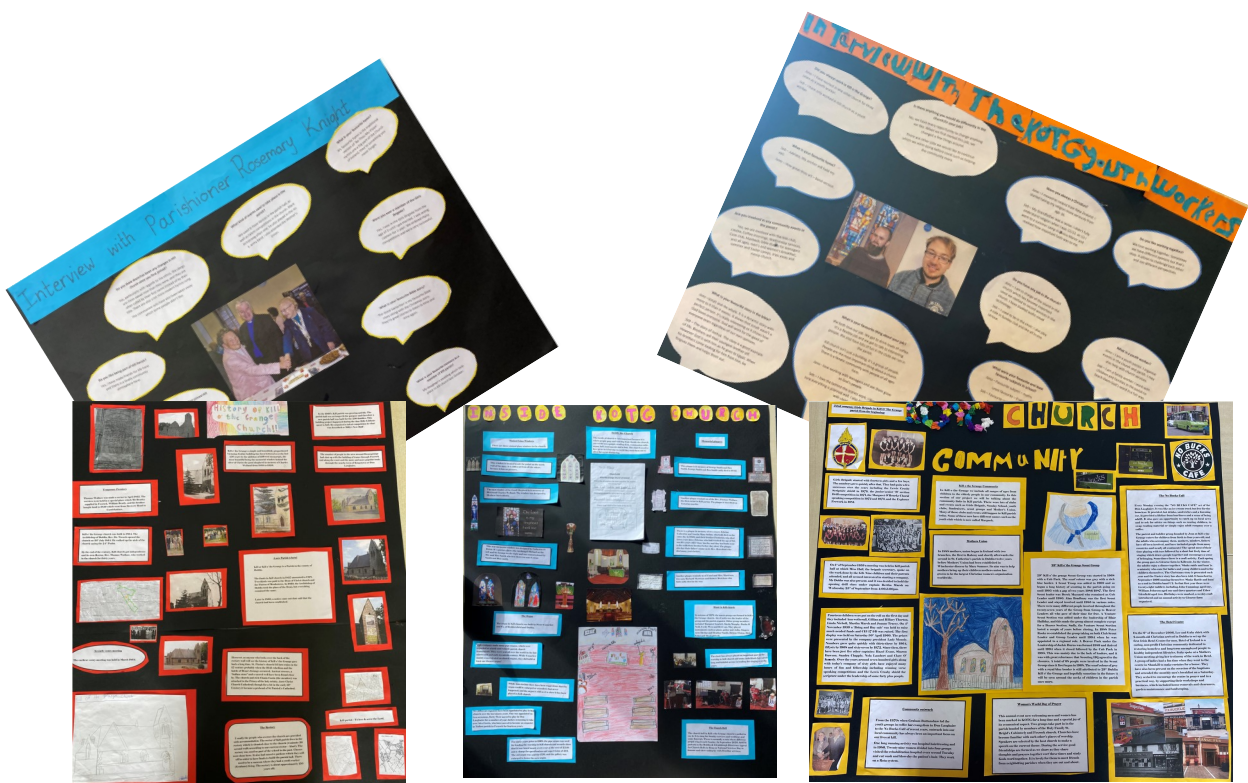
'Living History, Living Faith' project by 4th Class Kill o the Grange National School

4th Class in Kill O'The Grange National School have been very busy researching information on the local history of Kill O'The Grange (KOTG) parish. The children worked in groups to find this information which they then typed up and presented on posters. They also used their artistic and creative skills to draw and colour pictures and design their posters. Each group researched different areas such as the history of KOTG church, inside the church, church missions, Kill O'The Grange National school, previous Rectors in Kill parish and KOTG church community. The children also interviewed the current Rector; Alan Breen, the school secretary and past pupil; Sandra Chapple, KOTG youth workers; Jonathan Byford and Seb Dungan as well as parishioners Rosemary Knight and James Darling. The project was both challenging and enjoyable for the children. They really enjoyed working together with their classmates and they were very proud of the finished piece.

Sara Whitley
4th Class teacher

The artwork included pictures of the church created by the children . Three were selected as the best of an excellent selection—by Amy Bewley, Lizzie Curran and Chloe Youngman, . These will be featured on the cover page of three issues of the Parish Newsletter, starting with this one, where Chloe's creation has a suitably autumnal feel. The next two issues will feature Amy's and Lizzie's paintings.

A montage of some of the children's work:



The Changing Scenes of Life

Planet Earth has certainly experienced Changing Scenes since early last year! The hymn “Through all the changing scenes of life” (No. 372 in Church Hymnal, Fifth Edition, 2000) strangely seems to bear this out. It is a paraphrase of Psalm 34:1-9. It encourages us, through good times and bad, to praise God, and to lean on Him for support in everything we experience. Then we will be assured of His help: “...your wants shall be his care.” In continuing to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic, it would perhaps be helpful for us to turn again to Psalm 34 and to the wonderful hymn which it inspired.

The words of the hymn were written by two Irishmen: The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Brady (1659-1726) of Bandon, Co. Cork; and Nahum Tate (1652-1715) of Dublin. Both studied at the University of Dublin, Trinity College. Nahum Tate became Poet Laureate in 1692. His output included the words of the hymn “While shepherds watched their flocks by night.” Nicholas Brady had served as Chaplain to King William III.



**Nahum
Tate
(left)
and
Nicholas
Brady**



The tune “Wiltshire” by George Thomas Smart (1776—1867)

PARISH NEWSLETTER:

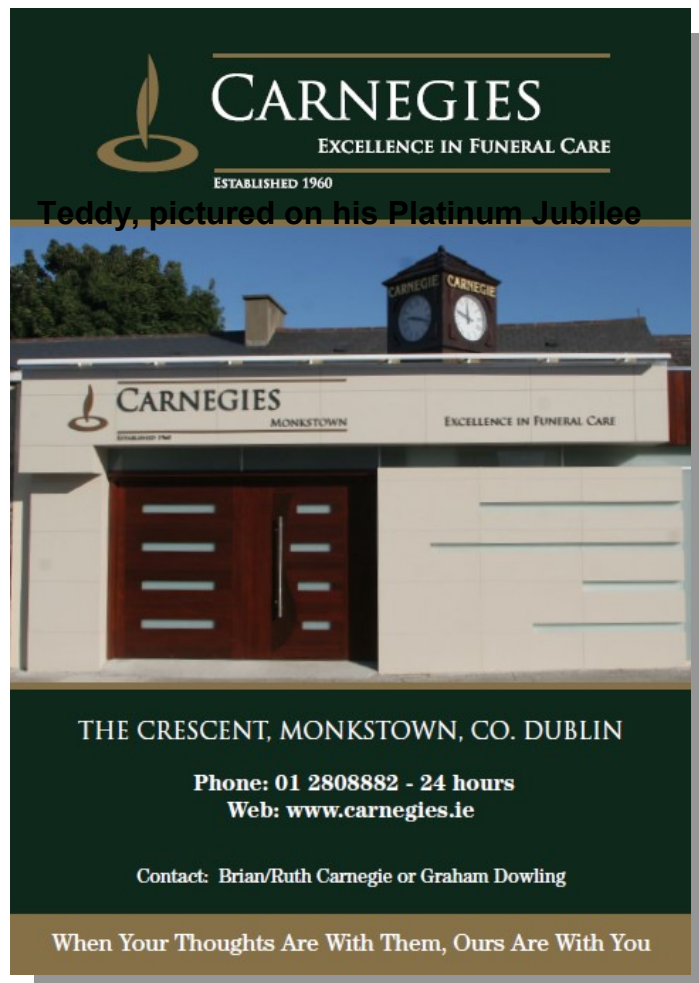
THE NEXT ISSUE— JANUARY TO MARCH 2022 –WILL BE PUBLISHED IN JANUARY.


FOR THIS, CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE SENT

NOT LATER THAN 15th DECEMBER 2021


TO JAMES DARLING BY E-MAIL:

nletter@kotg.ie.



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When Your Thoughts Are With Them, Ours Are With You

Church Activities

	Contact / E-mail:
Choir:	<i>Vacant</i>
Church Flowers:	<i>Vacant</i>
Church Music Group:	Diane Faulkner
Growing Groups: <i>(Fortnightly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays, usually 2nd & 4th weeks of month)</i>	Parish Office office@kotg.ie
Parish Visiting:	The Rev. Alan Breen rector@kotg.ie Bert Van Embden lpw@kotg.ie
Prayer Chain: <i>(Home based)</i>	Blanche Cooper
Prayer Meeting: <i>(Every Tuesday at 7.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre Den upstairs.)</i>	Parish Office office@kotg.ie
Young at Hearts: <i>(1st Friday of each month)</i>	Rosemary Knight
YOUTH GROUPS:	
Girls' Brigade: (Age 3 – 18) <i>Tuesdays, 3.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. (Sept./April)</i>	Clare O'Kennedy (Captain)
CORE Youth: (1 st – 6 th year) <i>Saturdays, 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.</i>	Jonathan Byford youth@kotg.ie
Maxpack: (5 th & 6 th class) <i>Every 2nd Friday, 7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.</i>	Seb Dungan children@kotg.ie
Crèche (0 – 3 years old): <i>At 10.30 a.m. Sunday service</i>	Seb Dungan children@kotg.ie
Sunday Club: (Age 4—3 rd year secondary school) <i>At 10.30 a.m. Sunday service</i>	Karl and Cathryn Schäckermann
GAMES & SPORTING:	
Parish Bowling Club: <i>Monday/Thursday, 7.15 p.m. – 9.15 p.m. (September/May)</i>	Ruth Mann
Clonkeen Bowling Club: <i>Tuesdays. 8.30 p.m. – 10.30 p.m. (September/May)</i>	John Toomy

Please contact the Parish Office (office@kotg.ie) if you would like to get in touch with anyone listed above or on the following page.

KILL O'THE GRANGE PARISH DIRECTORY

E-mail

Rector:	The Rev. Alan Breen	rector@kotg.ie
Curate:	<i>Vacant</i>	
Lay Readers:	Blair Halliday David Williams	
Lay Reader & Pastoral Worker:	Bert Van Embden	lpw@kotg.ie
Youth Pastor	Jonathan Byford	youth@kotg.ie
Children's and Family Worker	Seb Dungan	children@kotg.ie
Stewardship Recorder:	Mark Groves	steward@kotg.ie
Rector's Churchwarden:	John Riseley	
People's Churchwarden:	Aideen LaCombre	
Rector's Glebewarden:	Bruce Johnson	
People's Glebewarden:	Mark Faulkner	
Hon. Secretary, Select Vestry:	Keith Syms	
Hon. Treasurer:	Tim Roulston	treasurer@kotg.ie
Church Administrators:	Jane Winning and Caroline Plascott	office@kotg.ie
<i>Church Review:</i>	Parish Office	office@kotg.ie
<i>Church of Ireland Gazette:</i>	Parish Office	office@kotg.ie
Organist:	<i>Vacant</i>	
School Principal:	Hilary McBain	
Parish Centre (bookings):	Parish Office	office@kotg.ie
Parish Centre Committee:	<i>Vacant</i>	
Administrator-Repairs & Maintenance:	Derek Scott	
Parish Safety Officer:	Brian Lambert	
<i>Safeguarding Trust Panel:</i>	The Rev. Alan Breen	rector@kotg.ie
	Aideen LaCombre (Tel.: 087 222 1275) Michael Lynn (Tel.: 285 6006) Fiona McGrath	
<i>Parish Newsletter:</i>		
Editor:	James Darling	nletter@kotg.ie
Distribution:	Parish Office	office@kotg.ie

Parish Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Parish Address: Kill O'The Grange Parish Church, The Parish Office,
Kill Lane, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. A94 FC80

Tel.: (01) 289 6442

E-mail: office@kotg.ie

Website: www.kotg.ie



COVID-19 Update

Public Health Measures that will come into place in October 2021

From: Department of the Taoiseach

Published on 31st August 2021

Last updated on 22nd September 2021

This phase will see the majority of restrictions lifted and replaced by guidance and advice to enable us to work together to protect ourselves and to live our lives to the fullest extent possible.

We will need to continue to monitor the ongoing risk from the disease and take steps individually and collectively in our everyday lives to keep this risk under control.

From 22nd October onwards final restrictions will be lifted, including:

- requirements for physical distancing
- requirements for mask wearing outdoors and in indoor private settings
- limits on numbers at indoor and outdoor events and activities
- restrictions on religious or civil ceremonies
- limits on numbers that can meet in private homes/gardens
- certification of vaccination, immunity or testing as a prerequisite for access to, or engagement in, any activities or events (with the exception of international travel)
- restrictions on high-risk activities (for example: nightclubs)

Measures that will remain in place include:

- self-isolation when we have symptoms
- mask wearing in healthcare settings, indoor retail and on public transport