Our Parish Vision

We are committed to growing a healthy church. We want to grow in our relationship with God’s family, and we want to grow out into our local community as we seek to share our faith in words and actions.

Webmasters Jack Robinson/Pamela Duddy
pe_duddy@btconnect.com

January 2018 Magazine deadline
1pm Monday 22nd January 2018
by email to:
kayenesbitt@hotmail.co.uk

The Parishes of Dungiven and Bovevagh are separately registered with the Northern Ireland Charities Commission.
Dungiven Church of Ireland NICC Reg. No. 104862
Bovevagh (St Eugenius) Church of Ireland NICC Reg. No. 104871’
Rector: Revd Mark Loney
The Rectory, 14 Main Street, Dungiven, County Londonderry BT47 4LB
Telephone Rectory: 028 777 41226
Mobile 07720 321283
Parish Office (based at Bovevagh): 028 777 41394 (open Wednesdays during term time 10am - 12 noon)
E-mail: rev.loney@btopenworld.com
Rector’s Day off is THURSDAY

Parish Readers
Cecil Ross (Diocesan), Janette Morrow, Cathy Clyde, David Wilson

A full list of current members of both select vestries may be found on our church website www.dungivenbovevaghparishes.com

Dungiven Church Wardens
Mervyn Scott and Derek Morrow 777 41361

Dungiven Glebe Wardens
Alfie Canning 777 41896 and Russell Moore

Bovevagh Church Wardens
David Steele 777 41533 and Billy Mullan 777 42094

Bovevagh Parish Centre
Paddington Bear 2 Cinema visits

Wishing all our readers a very happy, holy and blessed advent and

Bovevagh Glebe Wardens
Jonathan Wilson 777 40682 and David

Dungiven Treasurer Sandra Smyth
Bovevagh Treasurer Pamela Duddy
Dungiven Secretary Alan Keys
Bovevagh Secretary Jonathan Wilson

Dungiven Organist Cecil Keys 777 41203
Bovevagh Organist Joan Robinson

Dungiven Catering & Hospitality
Jean Hill 777 64643, Vacant
Also details of the Dungiven Meal Run Scheme can be obtained from the catering team

Bovevagh Catering & Hospitality
Daphne Quigley 777 41405, Athline Simpson 777 41871

Flower Rota Administrators
Dungiven Elizabeth Canning 777 41952
Bovevagh Beverly Steele 777 64863

Dungiven Sunday School: 10am in the Parish Hall (first 15 minutes in church)
Contact - Violet Morrow 777 42307

Bovevagh Sunday School: 10.30am in the Parish Centre
Contact - Judith Mullan 0774098359
Dungiven Children’s Church: Sundays at 10am in the Parish Hall (first 15 minutes in church)
Contact - Anita Hill  777 40179

Bovevagh Children’s Church: Sundays at 12noon in the Parish Centre (first 15 minutes in church)

Contact – Pamela Hutton  07513806457

Puppets on a Mission – Contact - Jo Loney  07752 012217  / 028 777 41226
Email: jmloney@btinternet.com

Bovevagh Girls’ Brigade: Mondays in Bovevagh Parish Centre from 6pm
Contact - Angie Young 07843224771

Bovevagh Scout Troop: Wednesdays in Bovevagh Parish Centre from 6.15pm
Contact - Pamela Duddy 777 41284

Dungiven and Bovevagh Mothers’ Union: 1st Tuesday of the month
Contact – Hilda Dalzell (Branch Leader)

Bovevagh Prayer Group: Sunday mornings in Bovevagh vestry at 10.45am
Contact – Rosemary Robinson 777 41403 or David Steele 777 41533

Dungiven Prayer Group: Sunday mornings in Dungiven Church at 9.15am
Contact – Revd Mark 777 41226

Youth Focus for details see elsewhere in the magazine and church notices.

FLOWER / CLEANING / MAINTENANCE ROTAS

Bovevagh - The new flower rota for 2018 is now up in the porch please add your name to it if you would like to place flowers in the church next year. Thank you to all for the beautiful flowers in 2017.

Bovevagh Flower Rota.
December: Christmas flowers

January:
7th & 14th Andrea Steele
21st & 28th Cathy Clyde

Bovevagh Cleaning Rota.
December: Rosemary and Emma Averill
January: Harry and Beverly Steele

Dungiven Flower Rota
3rd December Ann Canning
10th, 17th, 24th and 31st December Louie Meenagh
January

Dungiven Cleaning Rota
Team Leader to organise time and date
December Paula
January Jean
February Ruth
March Paula

Dungiven Grounds Maintenance Team
Team Leader to organise time and date
December Cecil Keys
January Ernie Scott
Bovevagh Indoor Bowling Club:  
Tuesdays & Thursdays in the Parish Centre at 8pm  
Contact - Sammy Caldwell  07593357151

Dungiven Indoor Bowling Club:  
Mondays & Thursdays in the Parish Hall at 8pm  
Contact - Captain James Semple

Parish Bible Study (Wednesdays)  
Contact Revd Mark Loney 028 777 41226

Ladies Rectory Fellowship  
Contact - Jo Loney  07752 012217 / 028 777 41226

Communications  
Magazine production, reprographics, general administration  
Kaye Nesbitt  
Email: kayenesbitt@hotmail.co.uk

Joint Parish Website – Pamela Duddy / Jack Robinson  
Email: pe_duddy@btconnect.com

‘Dungiven Church of Ireland’ Facebook Administrator  
Julie Keys

‘Bovevagh Church of Ireland’ Facebook Administrator  
Carol Starrett

If any crèche date does not suit you, could you please contact another leader and swap with them. Many thanks for your help. It is very much appreciated.
A good shake up... 

Question - who is the greatest threat to Christmas - the secular crowd (and maybe we've got caught up in this so don't point the finger!) the ones who want to hijack it, to take more and make it into a bland, meaningless mish-mash of political correctness OR the sentimental crowd (and maybe again we've got caught up in this so don't point the finger there either!), the ones who want to detach the Christmas story from the reality of tyrants and asylum-seeking and of religious guff, twinkling stars, cheap tinsel, dancing angels and cute wee babies? For me, the greater threat to Christmas comes from those who trivialize it by talking a lot of religious 'fluffiness'.

Christmas is not about a soft, cute wee baby wrapped up in cotton-wool. Christmas is about a passionate and purposeful God setting out on a rescue mission for you. It is about God's love for you, His commitment not to leave you abandoned to death and hell. Not to leave you in the darkness of political, social or personal heartaches or chains. The first Christmas came about because of a fierce and passionate desire on God's part to 'be with us', to be involved in your losses, your disappointed and ruined relationships, the deaths you've had in the past year; the difficulties, the addictions, the traumas; things that turn you upside down and leave you battered and broken. The true Christmas message is that God refuses to leave you alone but wants to reach out and be with you. Jesus comes as a fierce, passionate little baby, who makes no distinctions, who breaks down barriers that all of us put up, in order to embrace the lowest, the least, the last and the lost. That's what Christmas is all about. It does not end here...

Congratulations to Esther Harper, Dungiven, who has achieved her target of walking 100 miles by climbing Marilyn's (mountains with a height of 150m or more). Esther who was diagnosed with CML in 2013 has raised an amazing £903 for Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI.

Bovevagh Children’s Church

Rota for December/January

3rd Dec  - Carol, Hilary, Jo, Cody and Pamela
10th Dec  - Noeleen, Sarah Jane, Olivia, Hazel
17th Dec  - Jackie, Sandra, Natalie, Angie, Cody and Pamela
24th Dec  - No Children’s Church
31st Dec  - No Children’s Church

All leaders are welcome out each Sunday during December to help with the Nativity on Sunday 17th. Thank you!

There is always opportunity for new parents to join the rota. If anyone on the rota is not able to make their date, please contact me and let me know by the Friday evening before, so that a replacement can be arranged. Please also note that Children’s Church is intended for children of pre-school and primary school age.

Thank you, Pamela 07513806457

Bovevagh Sunday School

10.30am until 11.15am in the hall.
All children from P1 upwards are very welcome!
drip with sentimentality. It is not cuddly soft. It is the fulfilling of God's desire to be with you and save you if you'll let him. And that's why we celebrate.

If God is not with you and God has not embraced your life, then woe is you. Make no mistake, there is no hope. But see Christmas as arms reaching out towards shepherds, ready to kneel and rejoice, the meaning of Christmas. Admit it, more often than not the only thing that holds you back from knowing God with us is your pride that says I must cope and I must cope by myself. Maybe you need a good shake up.

That said, I would like to wish you all a very peaceful and Happy Christmas Season and I really hope to see you out at our Christmas Worship over the coming weeks.

Every blessing
Rev Mark

**Hospital Visiting** If any church member or parishioner is in hospital, or expecting to be in hospital, please do ensure that the minister knows, so that he can visit to offer prayer and support if desired.

*Deuteronomy 31 v 7-8 says: “Be strong and brave... The LORD himself will go before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forget you. Don’t be afraid and don’t worry.”*
Wednesday 20th December 2017

Early Birds Prayer Breakfast @ the Rectory 6am until 7.30am.

A Bible reading, a time of open prayer, followed by a basic breakfast.

Even if you cannot make it to the meeting, you are very welcome to send us your prayer requests through email on rev.loney@btopenworld.com or by calling 028 777 41226 / mobile 07720 321283, no later than the Tuesday evening before.

We would love to see you, pray and share fellowship, believing the Lord for changed hearts, healing and revival.

Revd Mark, Jo, Reuben & Jem

Our Parishes are committed to the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust and its constitutionally in place Safeguarding Trust policy which is in place to safeguard and protect children and young people who are part of our programmes, and to enhance our overall ministry amongst children and young people.
This month we had our Investiture Service in the Church. We were delighted to present our new Scouts with their scarves and all the Scouts got to renew their promises.

The Squirrels have had a fun packed month doing crafts, playing games - they made poppies and made a super large drawing and enjoyed a colour party.

The Beavers learned about healthy eating, remembrance and scouting history. The lodge leaders had a meeting to give their views on what ideas they would like for the upcoming year and what way they would like some of the badgework carried out – a very successful evening was had.

The Cubs attended their 1st camp of the year at Castlerock, they completed a forest walk in the dark, made kites, had sandcastle competitions, played nerf wars, enjoyed glow stick games & had a disco. They also learned about scouting history and made Lego woggles.

The Scouts have been learning new knots, completing knot challenges, making campfire doughnuts and are learning how to send and receive Morse code messages. They took part in a night hike in Cam Forest over the half term break.

There will be NO Scouts on the following dates, however some sections have various events organised during this break.

Squirrels, Beavers & Cubs – Wed 20th & 27th Dec ’17 & 3rd Jan ’18
Scout Section – Fri 22nd & 29th Dec ’17

Wednesday 29th November – We are having a short Candlelit Carol Service, in the Church at 7pm for all Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to attend. There will be an opportunity for everyone to leave their Backpacks for Mary’s Meals under the Christmas Tree. Everyone is welcome.

The parish safeguarding panel to whom any concerns can be brought is:
Revd Mark Loney (777 41226)
David Wilson (777 41541)
Kathleen Canning (777 41556)
Sharon Canning (07762 015111)
Yvonne McGrotty (777 42051)

Wednesday mornings during term time @ Bovevagh Parish Office from 10am until 12 noon
Need to discuss a wedding or baptism?
Need to talk about a pastoral concern and receive prayer?
Need a reference for work etc?
Need to discuss something else that concerns you?
The door is open. Come on in!
This is in addition to other times when I am very happy to call with you at home rounds of visiting. Revd Mark.

from the registers in November

Baptisms
Beth Georgia Starrett, daughter of Trevor and Jillian Starrett of 39 Magheramore Road, Dungiven, was baptised on Sunday 19th November during Morning Worship.

Weddings
No weddings were conducted in the parishes in November.
Funerals

No funerals were conducted in the parishes. We note that the remains of Mr Derrick Kelly were interred in Dungiven Church grounds on Thursday 16th November by Revd Stephen Fielding, Rector of Agherton. Mr Kelly was a son of the late Canon James Kelly, incumbent of Dungiven from 1930-1950.

Youth Focus for P7 upwards

Some dates for the diary, ipad or gadgety thing…..

Sunday 26th November

Vineyard Coleraine, worship and teaching, starts at 7pm. Transport from the Rectory leaving at 6.15pm. Back by 9pm to the rectory – bring your phone just in case!

Saturday 16th December

Christmas Social including a champion speed stacker and games night. Dungiven Parish Hall. Time tbc.

Saturday 13th January 7.15pm – 9.30pm

New Year Get together at the Rectory – pizza and a showing of 'God's not Dead' (2014)

What’s it about?

When an atheist philosophy professor plans to forego "dusty arguments" in his class, he insists the new students declare that "God Is Dead." Unable to do this, Josh is challenged to defend his faith and prove to the class that God is NOT Dead. With everything on the line, Josh’s faith is unwavering… and life-changing to those around him.

For your Prayers…

- Revd Mark, Jo, Reuben and Jem
- The housebound, lonely and bereaved.
- For all the Parish Organisations as they enter a new season
- For all preparing for Marriage or Baptism
- For growth in faith and discipleship
- For the Meal Run Ministry
- For our province and the lack of government
- Good counsel for our global leaders
- The guidance of the Holy Spirit concerning The Ladies Bible CD

Lunch Fellowship

BOVEVAGH GIRLS’ BRIGADE

We are holding our annual coffee evening on Monday 4th December in the Church Hall from 6.30pm to 9.00pm. We will have homemade buns for sale and crafts. Admission £3.00 per adult and £1.00 per child. Tea, coffee, mince pies, tray bakes and Christmas craft. Come along and support your local GB.

Closure Dates

There will be no Girls’ Brigade on Monday 25th December and Monday 1st January. We will commence again on Monday 8th January 2018.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Angie and the team.
As a group we have come to realise that at times it’s very helpful to receive a meal at the door for you...at other times it may just bring some cheer to your day...let us continue to be a Believing community who is growing in love and compassion for one another.

It would be lovely to have more people turn up to our meal making times...maybe you ‘just’ want to do some food prep and/or wash up. Or you may want to get more stuck in over the stove!! God is no bully, He leads people to serve and obey Him.

It would be great to have some feedback (no pun intended) of how those who have received meals enjoyed them or not. We won’t be offended we would just like to know!

Please see Jean Hill, May Wilson, Sandra Ross or Jo Loney for further details of when we are next due to meet.

The prayer group meets every Sunday morning from 9.15am-9.40am in the church to pray for God’s anointing upon our worship, that there might be a move of His Spirit. We also pray for those in need whom the Lord has placed on our hearts. We are reading through the Book of Hosea at present. Please speak to the Rector for more information. Revd Mark 777 41226

Bible Marathon...next steps
Some time ago I floated the idea of a Bible Marathon – a continuous full reading of the Bible over a period of time in our two churches. Members of other churches have been asking about getting involved. I firmly believe this will be an enriching and uplifting experience as we read aloud the story of salvation, God’s purposes and plan. This is a real focus for Lent 2018 and preparations will begin in early January. Revd Mark

Sunday 28\textsuperscript{th} January 2018 Café Church
(at Bovevagh)
Refreshments alongside a DVD showing of the film ‘The Shack’. Details elsewhere in the magazine. Time for discussion.
As we look towards the beginning of Advent…

Please think and pray about coming along and making a new year's resolution to maybe try something you haven't tried before to help stop us being prejudice against what God can do amongst us! See Jo Loney for more details.

**Cafe Church** The Shack (12) 28th January 2018 at the Minor Hall from 7pm. Based on the international best-selling novel, The Shack takes us on a father's uplifting journey of discovery in the midst of tragedy. Max Philips (Sam Worthington) spirals into depression causing him to question his life's purpose and inner beliefs. Facing a crisis of faith he receives a mysterious letter urging him to an abandoned shack. Despite his doubts, Mack journeys to the shack and encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers led by a woman named Papa. This film is for anyone who struggles to understand why seemingly bad things happen to good people and who often question God's love and character.

**Youth Focus** Saturday 13th January @The Rectory 7.15 pm to 9.30pm God's Not Dead. Check out pureflickentertainment.http://GodsnotDead/TheMovie

**Proposed Puppet Appearance**, Clyde and Camille New Year's Resolution @ Dungiven 7th January 2017, could any members of the puppet team see Jo if you are able to be involved.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday 3rd March 2018 One Way UK Creative Ministries are coming to Bovevagh Church for the weekend. There will be a special emphasis on gospel illusion training for solo workers as well as advanced puppet training (ordained and lay people) More details to follow.
December 2017 and January 2018

Sunday 26th November (Christ the King)
10am Dungiven Morning Worship
11.30am Bovevagh Morning Worship
(The Baptism of Heath Ty Glenn Moore is postponed until 14th January)

Sunday 3rd December
10am Dungiven Holy Communion
11.30am Bovevagh Holy Communion

Sunday 10th December (Advent 2)
10am Dungiven Morning Carol Service
11.30am Bovevagh Morning Carol Service
(children/adults are invited to bring small wrapped gifts for local residents of nursing homes and our housebound. Please label 'male' or 'female')
7pm Bovevagh Lessons and Carols

Sunday 17th December (Advent 3)
10am and 11.30am Children’s Christmas Presentations
7pm Dungiven Lessons and Carols

Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve)
10am-10.45am Christmas Eve Service
11.30am-12.15pm Christmas Eve Service
11.30pm Joint Parishes Christmas Service
(Dungiven Church will host the 11.30pm service)

Ladies CD and Lunch Fellowship @ The Rectory, alternate Fridays 11am to 1pm — term time only


Session 1 15th December Christmas social/dvd
5th January 2018 Understanding Damage To The Human Spirit 1 Hilda O’Brien
19th January 2018 Understanding Damage to The Human Spirit 2 Hilda O’Brien

Samaritans Christmas Shoe Box Appeal — Bovevagh Parish
A small shoe box can have a big impact...what goes into the box is fun what comes out is eternal...love!!

Thanks to your kind and generous donations, this has enabled us to pack and send 80 shoe boxes...a fantastic achievement!! We will hear over the coming weeks what country our boxes go to but it will be somewhere in Eastern Europe. So thank you...from the GB & Sunday School.


Save the Date!

Wednesday 13th December, 6pm - 8pm
Bovevagh Scouts & the Sunday School are having a joint Christmas Party...further details will follow....
Monday 25th December (Christmas Day)

Short services lasting 45 minutes to which children (and adults) can bring one or two Christmas gifts for a ‘show and tell’

Praise with Communion (Dungiven)

Praise with Communion (Bovevagh)

Sunday 31st December (First Sunday of Christmas)

10am Dungiven Morning Worship

11.30am Bovevagh Morning Worship

(both services will be conducted by Mrs Kaye Nesbitt)

Sunday 7th January – Epiphany 1

10am Dungiven Holy Communion

11.30am Bovevagh Holy Communion

Sunday 14th January – Epiphany 2

10am Dungiven Morning Worship

11.30am Bovevagh Morning Worship

with the Baptism of Heath Ty Glenn Moore

Sunday 21st January – Epiphany 3

Family Services at 10am (Dungiven) and 11.30am (Bovevagh)

Sunday 28th January – Epiphany 4

10am Dungiven Morning Worship

11.30am Bovevagh Morning Worship

7pm Café Church (Bovevagh) details elsewhere in magazine

 petitions to parliament and to the King, it was caught up in other issues that were surrounding the plantation at the time. Some of the parish’s most precious artefacts from its long history were on display in the church hall on Saturday afternoon. They include a number of communion chalices presented by ‘the Worshipful Company of Skinners, London’ in 1679.

Revd Mark began Saturday afternoon’s proceedings with a reading from Psalm 90, which he said dealt with God’s presence with us through the generations. He told the parishioners that the God they worshipped was the same God as their ancestors had worshipped.

“We’re looking at history and we’re making history today,” Revd Mark said, referring to the time capsule, “because the children of the Sunday School and others who have contributed to it are making history for somebody else to look at. So, we’re playing our part in God’s big story, looking at the past and preserving some of today for the future.”

After the book launch, parishioners – young and old – signed the time capsule before carrying it the short distance to the churchyard where a hole had been dug. The time capsule has been an ongoing Sunday school Project for the past number of months. Thank you to Alfie and Ryan Canning and Russell Moore for providing the capsule itself and securing a robust and watertight resting place and burial. The capsule was buried and will hopefully remain covered and unopened for a future generation to unearth in 100 years’ time back beforehand! Following an historical tour of the church building, a lovely spread of tea, coffee, sandwiches, sausage rolls and pastries was very kindly provided and served by the catering team in the hall, bringing the afternoon to a wonderful conclusion.

Copies of the Church History are available from Alan Keys or Revd Mark at a cost of £10 each. A good gift for Christmas?
Dungiven History Launch & Time Capsule Burial

Dungiven had one eye on the past and another eye on the future as they gathered in the Church Hall on Saturday 18th November. They were there to celebrate the launch of a new book about the parish – spanning more than 400 years of its history – and to witness the burial of a time capsule which won't be opened for another 100 years.

The book, ‘A History of Dungiven Church of Ireland Parish and Church’, was written by the Secretary of the Vestry, Alan Keys, who told those present it had taken around a year and a half to complete. “Hopefully,” he said, “it is a record that will stand the test of time”.

The history dates back to the plantation period and includes a chapter on the old priory which preceded the current church. Alan revealed that while researching the project, he had been unable to find an actual date for the opening of the church. “Some books say 1817; some even say 1816 because that’s the date on the stone of the tower; the Board of First Fruits has it listed as 1818, but the Vestry minutes would seem to suggest it’s 1817. The 175th anniversary dated back to 1817, as well, so that’s the date we’ve gone for.”

Alan said he had been surprised by some of the things he had discovered during his research. “You think you’re a small parish and fairly isolated in rural Ireland but in a lot of ways at that time Dungiven was nearly at the centre of things. There were

Advent begins on Sunday 3rd December

Advent Services @

Theme ‘‘twas ever thus’

Wednesday 6th December in Dungiven Church
‘Worshipping Fully’
Wednesday 13th December in Dungiven Church
‘Spending less, giving more’
Wednesday 20th December in Dungiven Church
‘Loving all’

Simple reflective services with Advent hymns, Bible Reading, teaching and prayer.

Wednesday Bible Studies resume

Any donations should be returned in the envelope provided via the Sunday offering, no later please than Sunday 3rd December 2017. If for some reason the envelope was not enclosed in your November magazine, and you would like one, please let the minister know.
Christmas Home Communions

I will be concentrating pastoral visiting on home communions over the run up to Christmas between 4th December and 15th December. To those who are housebound, unwell or unlikely to make it to church over Christmas, or to the seniors Christmas Dinner on 12th December, and would like to receive communion perhaps for the first time, I would be delighted to come to you. If you can please let me know as soon as possible yourself, or through a family member. I will then be in touch to arrange a date and time. You may be on my list already, but I don’t want to miss you at this special time of year!

Rcvd Mark

Time to stock up….a few dozen bags remaining.

Limited offer until 30th November £3 per bag or £25 for 10 bags.

Proceeds to Parish Funds.

Dungiven & Bovevagh Mothers’ Union.

The November meeting was held on 7th November in Bovevagh Parish Centre. Wendy Wilson showed us some tips on decorating our Christmas Cakes.

Thank you Wendy, this was a very enjoyable evening.

December is our Christmas Meal out on 5th December, to the Ritter Tea Rooms (country Park) for 6.30pm to eat at 7.00pm. If you would like to attend this, please let myself or one of the committee know before Tuesday 28th November. Please bring a small gift (£5) for Christmas Santa.

Thank you,

Daphne

Calling all parishioners and church members 65 years and over….

You are warmly invited to SENIORS

Tuesday 12th December at 12.30pm in Bovevagh Parish Centre.

Holy Communion will be celebrated for any who wish to receive.

Christmas Carols – Hope you are in fine festive voice!

Plenty of the usual good craic!

Sign up sheets now in both churches. Please get in touch/sign up to book your place!

Revd Mark on 777 41226 or Daphne Quigley on 777 41405

We need to know numbers by Monday 4th December at the absolute latest please.