



# McCracken News

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[www.ecmi.org](http://www.ecmi.org)

### Prayer items:

Please pray for many opportunities to speak with the people of Claremorris about God's love and grace. It would be great to see a group coming together soon to find out more from God's Word.

Please remember the practical needs involved in helping to get this new ministry started. We need co-workers soon and also help with start up costs for ministry. Please be in contact with us or the ECM Office in Lisburn if you can help.

Good relationships with our partners in Calvary Mission as we co-operate together to see the gospel spread in Co. Mayo.

### Praise items:

In mid September, we celebrated 20 years of married life! God has been very faithful to us over the years. We thank Him for all He has been to us and is to us in this new chapter of our lives and work.

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### SETTLING INTO CLAREMORRIS.....

Dear Friends, we are happy to share that our move to Claremorris went very well during the hot spell in early July and we are settling to our new home, town, schools and ministry here in Co. Mayo. It has been so good to see **David and Sarah** settle into their new schools. This has been a real encouragement and a real answer to the prayers of many people for which we are very grateful.

**Claremorris** is a busy little town of around 4 000 people and is 45 minutes from the well known holiday town of Westport. Our home is just outside Claremorris with new sights and sounds for us coming from the sheep and cows in the back fields!

We have visited several **churches** in the area to get to know other workers in Calvary Mission as well as other local Christians. It has been very challenging to see these small fellowships in different places and strange for us not to have responsibilities yet in a particular place, but that will change in time.

**"How do you start a new church?"** is a question we have been asked frequently. The answer isn't an easy one. Basically, we're trusting God to show us the way forward as we meet with different people, some of whom have shown some interest in Christian things through previous contact with Calvary Mission workers. We really sense the need to wait on God's timing and guidance as we pray this through and as we engage with people during outreach times and through being part of the local community.

The move has been a stressful time as well as a confirming time in our ministry. The week we moved house, we received a firm offer (which we accepted) on our house in Tramore....we had received no offers whatsoever in the previous 9 months! Whilst it can be hard to adjust to all the differences, we are building helpful relationships with other workers in the area and we are glad of their support and fellowship. It is encouraging to think through the meaning of the words below in Matthew and realise that we are co-workers with the Master Builder who knows how things fit and when.

*Jesus said, "...I will build my church..." Matthew 16 v18*



Please consider carefully the prayer items opposite, we would love to have you praying even for a minute or two every day. We feel sure that God has been speaking to people in this town and we would like to meet them!

We're grateful for all your encouragement and look forward to being able to share more of what God is doing in Claremorris in the days ahead,

Love from Jonathan, Nicola, David & Sarah.