

IN MINISTRY TOGETHER



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Welcome to the Winter edition of the B.C.R. Newsletter. Welcome to what? I can hear some of you say – maybe you are new to the area – or maybe you have not encountered the B.C.R. Newsletter before, and even if you have, maybe it is good to refresh our awareness of own understanding of what it is and what its purpose is.

The newsletter is intended to be a channel of communication for and between the three parishes that make up our parish grouping, Ballyroan, Churchtown & Rathfarnham, three parishes that are working more closely together in recent years so that with changing times and reducing numbers of aging clergy we can more effectively carry out the mission of the Church which essentially is to make known and bear witness to the love of God made visible in Jesus Christ in the ordinary events of everyday life.

While this newsletter is primarily to address the Catholic communities of these three parishes it is offered to people of the wider Christian family and indeed to all people of goodwill who may draw inspiration or encouragement from something you may read or see in it. The coming weeks of Advent – the time of preparation for Christ's coming at Christmas – will be very busy for many – if not most people. So much to be done. In the busyness and hustle and bustle of these weeks. Please consider making some quiet reflective space for yourself so that you will give God and yourself a significant place this Advent. It can be hard to find a quite space in the busyness of these weeks so you may need to plan this time in advance.

Quickly Christmas – the season of gifts and presents – will be upon us. God's greatest gift to us is his Son, Jesus Christ. Many of us will bow down in homage before him in the crib. We will recognise Him too in the marginalised and the most vulnerable of our world and act according to his example.

On behalf of all of our Parish Team, may I wish you every blessing for Christmas and 2020. We do appreciate that for many 2019 has been a year of great blessings; for many others it has been a difficult and painful one.

Finally, a very warm and sincere welcome to all people to any of the Advent / Christmas ceremonies in any of our Churches. You are most welcome, particularly for whatever reason you may have been away for some time, there is a genuine welcome and a place for everybody. The timetable for Christmas Masses in all three parishes can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

FR. MARTIN COSGROVE,
Moderator of the Ballyroan, Churchtown and Rathfarnham Grouping of Parishes.

BALLYROAN CHURCHTOWN RATHFARNHAM PARISH NEWS

Winter 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

- Protecting our Environment.
- Update on activities in our three parish communities, Advent and Christmas celebrations planned.
- Interview with Ballyboden St. Enda's father and son Darren and Declan O'Reilly.
- We remember our love ones who have died.

**Please join us for
BAMBINELLI
SUNDAY 15th December
2019 at 12 noon Mass in
Church of the Holy Spirit
Ballyroan & Church of the
Annunciation
Rathfarnham.**

On the third Sunday of Advent, the children of Rome bring their baby Jesus figurines (Bambinelli in Italian) to St. Peter's Square to be blessed by the Pope. This special event

will be replicated in two of our churches, **The Church of the Holy Spirit, Ballyroan** and **The Church of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham** are having **Bambinelli Sunday** on **Sunday 15th December** at the **12 noon Mass**.

Please join us and bring your Bambinelli as a great start to the Christmas preparations. If you don't have a crib now could be the time to get one! It doesn't have to be expensive. All you really need is Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus – the Bambinelli! Making one could be a fun craft activity for young kids, for example using playdoh or plasticine to make the figurines and painted cereal box for the stable. Farm animal toys could be lent from the playroom to the crib for the season. Making or setting up your crib is a lovely way to talk to



children about the Christmas story. Then on Christmas morning, we have the lovely tradition of placing the Baby Jesus in the crib. It's a practical and visual way of bringing our attention to the real meaning of Christmas, the coming of Jesus, the Son of God to us as a little baby. A time of great joy for us all.

'BEST YOU CAN BE'



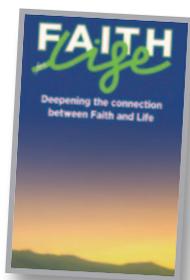
would have been around five and a half feet tall, with olive skin, hazel eyes and shorter curly hair. Their claim is not that this is exactly what Jesus looked like but scholars do think this image to be more accurate than the many artistic depictions of Jesus.

We reflected on the meaning and significance of our common story as Christians and how we gather wisdom and

make connections as we grow. Most of us want to live better, hopeful and fruitful lives. So how do we do Adult faith? In order to have faith, you must have an experience of faith. We explored what insights come from Scripture and Church teaching. We looked at right relationships between humans and the natural world. We found that Listening is very important. There were many more discussions and at the end of the day we resolved to focus on one good thing and do it well.

Our sincere thanks to Rosemary and her team for an energetic, diverse and thought-provoking day. Keep an eye on the noticeboards and newsletters for information on courses designed and run by the Archdioceses and book early to avoid disappointment.

Veronica Kennedy



On Saturday September 21st parishioners from the three parish communities gathered at the Ruah Centre in Ballyroan and led by Rosemary Lavelle from the Archdiocese of Dublin and her team Rachel, Eibilish and Fr. John and we were brought on a faith journey that brought us right back to our childhood experiences of faith and saw how the learning cycle starts with our own story. We were entertained with the story of Abraham and Sarah through the Godly Play method and found how we are all part of a long-standing faith family searching for personal knowledge of God. We considered Early Christian communities and looked at what research and science can tell us. Recent research carried out by a team of Israeli and British forensic anthropologists and computer programmers led by retired medical artist Richard Neave. They formulated an image of what Jesus might have looked like using computer modelling and based on their knowledge of what Jewish people looked like at that time and an Israeli skull dating to the first century A.D. It is thought Jesus

Due to overwhelming demand following our pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2018 the Parish Grouping of Ballyroan, Churchtown & Rathfarnham will be returning to the Holy Land in October 2020. The group will be led by Fr. Martin Cosgrove of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham.
To register your interest please contact your parish secretary before December 8th.

EXPERIENCE THE HOLY LAND

DEPARTING ON THE 11TH OCTOBER 2020 | 10 DAYS

- 4 nights Jerusalem / Bethlehem | 4 nights Tiberias
- Half board | Fully escorted and led by Fr. Martin Cosgrove
- Full religious programme including daily Mass
- €100 off when booked and paid in full by 20th January 2020

€1,685

per person
sharing

EARLY
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CLIMATE CHANGE

Protecting our environment
A role model for many young people:
Greta Thunberg

Our teachers across our different schools have been explaining how it is important to respect our environment. The boys in Ballyroan Boys School have clearly got the message and were all out in force for Climate change strike.

You say you love your children above all else, and yet you are stealing their future in front of their very eyes.

Greta Thunberg



To observe the Climate Change strike Loreto Primary School, Grange Road had quiet time when all the electricity was turned off and we listened to what we could hear in the silence. We said a prayer of thanksgiving. Many teachers continued without electricity for most of the day



Ballyroan BNS @BallyroanBoysNS · 9/20/19
Doing our part for Climate Change! We can all make a difference!
#ClimateStrike #GretaThunberg



Pope Francis and Protecting our Environment

Pope Francis highlights the urgent challenge to protect our common home. He says that, “young people demand change” and he asks, “how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded.” Pope Francis believes that we need a conversation which includes everyone, because the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all. He states that “regrettably, many efforts to seek concrete solutions to the environmental crisis have proved ineffective, not only because of powerful opposition but also because of a more general lack of interest. Obstructionist attitudes, even on the part of believers, can range from denial of the problem to indifference, nonchalant resignation or blind confidence in technical solutions. We require a new and universal solidarity.” *Encyclical letter by Pope Francis Laudato Si, on care of our common home.*

**Church of the Holy Spirit,
Ballyroan,
Dublin 14.**

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Parish Sec: Aine Mullally

A word from Fr. Peter O'Connor

Operations can be unusual experiences. One never knows the outcome.

On June 14th I entered the Mater Hospital for an emergency operation. My fifth surgery in less than four years. The operation lasted over 5 hours.

A month later after a stay in hospital and being cared for so well in a nursing home I received a call to go and see the Archbishop. As always, he was very kind and understanding to me and asked me to take up a new appointment in Ballyroan – he inquired from me, did I know the church or parish? I told him I only knew it my reputation. Sr. Basil who was in Sancta Maria School for many years was a member of the Mercy community in one of my former parishes. One day when I was in hospital, she held my hand and said if you are ever asked to go to Ballyroan Parish, just say yes.

A few days later I had a very warm welcome from Fr. Martin our moderator

in Rathfarnham and then, the following day Fr. Danny and I spent the day together as he laid out before me the lie of the land in Ballyroan Parish as he was returning to Canada. And so, in the space of five weeks, I was transported from Beachwood Avenue Parish in Ranelagh to Ballyroan via the Mater Hospital!

Ballyroan Parish has a great reputation for its community and volunteering spirit. I met with the chairpersons of the finance and Parish Pastoral Council and

then when I began on 10th August with the staff and many volunteers. I am still in awe at the community spirit in the area and I also appreciate the welcome, from the many different groups in the parish, especially the reception from the boys and girls' school, their principals and staff.

Since arriving, we have as a parish had many events

- Blessing of school bags
- Blessing of pets
- Blessing of roses (St Thérésa)
- Harvest Sunday
- Emigration weekend
- Annual Mass for the departed
- Finance Sunday

As a Church we are experiencing in Ireland a period of contraction, as many parishioners in business are aware, contraction can be painful and takes a while to adjust to. In Ballyroan, we also face challenges – some financial, the cost of maintaining the church and the Ruah centre, establishing policies and procedure in regards to regulations, trying to reach out to the youth of our community as well as serving and making welcome all who have been so loyal to Ballyroan throughout the years.

These are challenges we can meet together – every generation has different crosses to carry or hills to climb. Together as we integrate with our sister parishes of Rathfarnham and Churchtown, we can look forward to welcoming, ministering and serving the faith community of Ballyroan. Rathfarnham and Churchtown.

As I wrote in the beginning of this article. Operations can be unusual experiences. I look forward to my operation in the B.C.R.

“
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Ballyroan Parishioners: Father & Son, Darren & Declan O'Reilly committed to Ballyboden St Enda's Club & all things GAA



Darren has been a player at Ballyboden St Enda's since 1995 and has worked his way up to playing for the senior football team for 10 years and along the way, becoming the youngest ever captain. His highlight moment was winning the AIB Club All-Ireland Championship in 2016. For Darren what makes his team special is the fact that "we work hard, we have respect for our club and each other and we are all good friends."

Declan has been one of the Senior Ladies' team coaches over the past 10 years, and also offers his time to training the girls of Scoil Naomh Pádraig, enjoying their success in winning the Cumann-na-mBunscol final at Croke Park in 2017. Declan enjoys seeing young people develop their skills, and believes that what makes a good coach, is having patience, being a good communicator and ensuring that all players no matter of what age, enjoy their football.



Fr. Martin who has recently celebrated his 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, along with Fr. Michael wished Fr. Hyacinth well, as he moves to a new appointment within the Bray cluster of parishes.



CHAMPIONS



Huge congratulations St Marys B.N.S on your fantastic achievement of becoming Division 1, Corn Kitterick Champions for the fourth time (2002, 2003, 2017 & 2019). The final score of the match was a resounding 8.13 to 0.8 victory over Marino. A massive well done to the boys, coaches, teachers and parents.

**Church of the Good Shepherd,
Churchtown, Dublin 14.**

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Parish Office: (01) 298 4642

Fr. Brian Edwards: (01) 298 4642

Sacristy Tel: (01) 298 4642

Parish Sec: Niamh Masterson

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Sunday Mass on 29th October was a very special occasion in our parish bringing together children who are preparing to receive the holy sacraments of Baptism, First Confession and Communion. Three new babies were presented for preparation for Baptism, and the boys and girls from the Good Shepherd National School who will be making their First Holy Communion next year have started into their 'Do this in Memory' programme. It was a joy for me and everyone in our church to see so many young people and their families in the church and we wish them well in their journey over the coming months. **Fr. Brian**



Mary McSweeney RIP



We were all so saddened to learn of the sudden death of Mary McSweeney, our parish Catechist. Her hardwork and dedication were so valued by all of our community and her generous nature in carrying out God's work is greatly missed. Our sincere condolences to her family and friends.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is very conscious of the tremendous support given by the people of the Parish and thank you most sincerely on behalf of those you have helped.

Last year thousands of families in communities across Ireland celebrated Christmas with the help of schools, businesses and people just like you. Unfortunately, this year even more people need your support.

Please take part in the Giving Tree and donate gifts to make Christmas that little bit brighter for children and families who are struggling in our community.

**For more information log on to
www.svp.ie/givingtree.**

The Good Shepherd National School



We marked our 30th Anniversary as a school in the Good Shepherd Church recently. Fr. Brian and senior pupils remembered fondly both the late Canon Fitzsimons, our founding chairperson, and the late John Curran, our founding principal, who opened our school on the 1st September 1989 following the amalgamation of Our Lady of Loreto Girls N.S. Loreto Avenue and De La Salle Boys N.S. Whitehall Road, Churchtown.

Our school has continued to grow and expand over the last 30 years. We look forward to another successful, happy year working with the children of Churchtown as we watch them flourish.



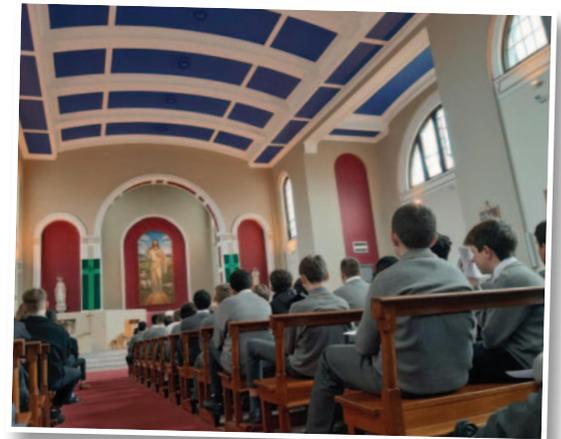
Like steps of stairs – from our very youngest child all the way up to 6th Class, and our recent Active Flag presentation with guest appearance by Ireland Soccer International **Stephanie Roche**.



We had a busy start to the new school year in De La Salle College. On Tuesday, September 24th we held our annual Open Day which was very well attended, we would like to thank the many parents and students who visited our school. It was lovely to see so many families from the Parish visiting the local Secondary School. We had our 'Opening of the school year' mass for all the students in the

Church of the Good Shepherd on 25th September and we would like to thank Fr. Brian Edwards, a past pupil of the College, for celebrating the mass for us.

That afternoon we played a great game of rugby against our neighbours from Terenure College which was played in great spirit with the values of the game of rugby to the fore. It was great to have representatives of the Churchtown Community on both sides.



**Church of the
Annunciation,
Rathfarnham, Dublin 14.**

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Sacristy Tel: (01) 493 8385

Parish Sec: Jason Monahan

Bishop Eamonn Walsh

In September of this year, Pope Francis accepted the resignation of Bishop Eamonn Walsh as Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin (and Titular Bishop of Elmham).

This year Bishop Eamonn celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his Ordination as a Priest in 1969 and 29 years as Auxiliary Bishop. During those 50 years he has very generously given of himself in a great variety of Ministries, Prison Chaplain, the work of formation of student Priests, the central administration of the diocese with a number of Archbishops and in more recent years he has headed up the Office for the Care of Priests. Bishop Eamon served as Apostolic Administrator of Ferns Diocese from 2002-2006 during a very difficult time.

In this part of the Diocese, we have all experienced him as a true and caring Pastor. This aspect of his life and Ministry has always been very evident in his visits to our parishes, our schools and at his Confirmation ceremonies. He has been a figure of great inspiration in encouraging and enabling greater lay involvement in the life of the Church.

Bishop Eamonn, we sincerely thank you for all you have been and done as a human being, as a Priest and Bishop. We suspect that the word "retirement" is not in your vocabulary, but we wish you many more years of health and happiness at a gentler pace of life.

B.C.R. Editorial Team



Ecumenical Prayer Service, June 2019

There was an ecumenical prayer service held on 29th June, the feast day of Saints Peter and Paul, in the old graveyard in Rathfarnham Village to mark the beginning of Christianity in Rathfarnham around the 6th century.

The service was jointly led by Canon Adrienne Galligan and Fr. Michael Coady with parishioners from the Church of Ireland in



Rathfarnham and the Church of the Annunciation joining in. The graveyard contains the ruins of the first Christian Church in the area, which was dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul.

Following the prayer service there was a guided tour of the graves by local historian, Tony Duffy, who pointed out various graves of historical interest as well as an area of unmarked pauper graves.

Exploring Faith.....Encountering Christ
Come and join us on our...

ADVENTURE

**CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION
PARISH CENTRE**

WEDNESDAYS @ 7.30 pm
Nov 27, Dec 4, 11, 18

Kieran O'Mahony OSA
www.tarsus.ie

ALL ARE WELCOME

Fr. Kieran J. O'Mahony OSA will run a 4 week course on Exploring faith during Advent. The course will run on a Wednesday nights at 7.30pm from **November 27th to December 18th** in the **Parish Hall, Willbrook Road**. If you would like to take part please give your name to Jason in the Parish Office.



Changes in Personel

The Annual Diocesan Summer Changes have brought a number of changes to our Area Team.

Fr. Danny Mc Lennon (Ballyroan) has been recalled to minister in Antigonish, his native Diocese in Canada.

Fr. Hyacinth Nwakuna CSSp, has been transferred to the Bray Grouping of Parishes and in particular to reside in the Enniskerry / Kilmacanogue section of it.

Fr. Peter O'Connor (Beechwood Ave) has been appointed Co PP in Ballyroan.

We wish all of them every blessing and thank God for their Ministry.

Fr. Martin Cosgrove

Scripture Study Group

The Scripture Study Group grew out of a desire expressed by Parishioners from Ballyroan, Churchtown and Rathfarnham to learn more about the scriptures. I popped in recently to see how they were getting on and Fr. Christopher gave me a quick update on what they have been doing.

“We are a group of about twenty to twenty-five adults who come together to study Sacred Scripture and how to apply it to our lives. We usually meet for twelve sessions twice a year, on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm. We have already studied the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles. At present we are studying the Captivity letters of St. Paul beginning with the letter to the Ephesians. This is considered the greatest of all Paul’s letters. There are two sections, theological and practical, Faith and action. In the first section he deals beautifully with the mystery of Christ’s redemption, breaking down all divisions between Jew and Gentile and establishing us all as children of a loving God. In the second part he reflects on how the followers of Christ should live their lives, whatever their status is. He is writing from prison in Rome, but what comes through is his joy and



thanksgiving at his vocation to preach to the peoples the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ. We follow the text and commentary in the Navarre Bible.”

Keep any eye out for notices about our next session and come join us as newcomers are always most welcome.

Recipe Box – White Christmas Cake



For a few years in the 90s I co-hosted a radio program every Monday, on South East Radio called After Eight. One of the most popular segments of the radio show was an item called Presbytery Cooking. Every week I interviewed someone who cooked for the clergy or religious or I recorded a segment with a priest who happened to be a good cook. Listeners sent in a stamp addressed envelope to the radio station and the recipe of the week was returned to them.

Anne Doyle has been in charge of cooking in the beautiful Pugin Cathedral in Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford for over 30 years. One of the most popular recipes she shared with listeners was her famous. “White Christmas Cake”.

Now that I am ministering in Ballyroan, we decided to share this recipe with you, happy cooking and I would love to taste the results, hint, hint!

Ingredients:

- 275g Stork packet margarine
- 275g caster sugar
- 5 eggs, size 1, whisked lightly
- 350g plain flour, sieved
- 75g ground almonds
- 125g mixed cherries or yellow cherries, dried and quartered
- 350g sultanas
- 175g dried apricots, chopped
- 225g glacé fruit or cut mixed peel
- 50g preserved ginger, drained and chopped
- 50g chopped mixed nuts
- 2 tablespoon brandy, whiskey or sweet sherry

Oven temperature: 180°C.

Middle shelf.

Size of tin:

Deep 25cm round cake tin.

Method:

1. Brush baking tin with melted Stork and place a circle of brown paper on the bottom, then line the bottom and sides with greaseproof paper.
2. Cream Stork and sugar until light and fluffy.
3. Beat in the whisked eggs gradually, adding a little sieved flour with each addition of egg after the first.
4. Toss the cherries in the ground almonds.
5. Fold in the remaining sieved flour, tossed cherries, fruit, ginger and nuts then stir in the spirits or sherry.
6. Fill the mixture into the prepared tin and smooth the top. Bake in the pre-heated oven for 1 hour 40 min to 2 hours.
7. Check after 1 ¼ hours and cover with foil or brown paper, if necessary, to prevent the top from becoming too brown.
8. Leave in the tin until almost cold, then turn out carefully, remove papers then leave to cool completely on a wire tray.
9. When completely cold store in polythene bag or wrap in greaseproof paper and foil, then store in a cool dry place.

IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, WE TAKE TIME TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

We remember in particular loved ones in our parish communities who have died
within the past year.

**"Praying for the dead is, above all, a sign of gratitude for the witness they have left us, and the good they have done. It is a thanksgiving to the Lord for them and for their love and their friendship."
(Pope Francis)**

Valerie Humphreys, Geraldine Hourican, Joseph O'Broin, Aurelia Glynn, Noel Kenny, Maureen McCabe, Helen Hyland, Teresa Walsh, Jenny Barry,

Ann Keating, Jean Crowley, Noel Smyth, Joseph (Joe) Cyril Holloway, Gerard A. Crosbie, Gerard Quinn, Mary Twomey, Alice Ryan, Elizabeth Palmer, Nicholas Brendan Slevin, Michael Buckley, Dermot Daly, Patricia McDonnell, Maura O'Donoghue, Lily Byrne, Mary O'Carroll, David Charters, Mary Murray, Joan Kavanagh, Margaret (Peggy) Kearney, Una Semple, Patricia Daly, Eamonn Frank Devlin, Sr. Eileen McErlean, Hilda Kavanagh, William Fitzsimons, Mary Tobin, Margaret Waddock, Bernard Maguire, Michael Deegan, Maire Collins, Killian & Emer Linton, Joan Dunne, Tanis Mc Cafferty, Dr Rita Hughes, Gerard Mahon, Vincent Moloney, Alice Norris, Bridget (Bridie) Corcoran, Tom Croke, Maris Keane, Nancy Breen, Barbara Gaynor McCloskey, Marian Weavers, Laurie Mc Cluskey, Elizabeth (Betty) Sexton, Doreen Andrews, Deirdre Burke, Hugh Hanley, Deirdre Wheeler, John Morgan, Thomas Keddy, John Twomey, Margaret Hefferon, Colette Healy, Joy Florence Bannon, Marie Landy, Robert Elgie, Audrey Cahill, John D. Cunningham, Patrick (James) Prendergast, Patrick (Mel) Kennedy, Ray Merriman, Kathleen Murphy, Paddy Plunkett, Sr. Marion Moriarty, Patrick Donnellan, Eileen Lehane, Patrick Cox, Dr. David McInerney, Bernard (Barney) Hanlon, Maeve Cripps, John Doyle, Shirley Clare, Cormac Duffy, Deirdre (Nelson) O'Flanagan, Theresa (Terri) Geoghegan, Kathleen Taylor, Michael Glynn, Sebastian Patrick Stroie, Agnes O'Leary, Aidan Lernihán, Nora Bermingham, Gerry Sinnott, Lucille Turner, John Fogarty, Brid Dean

Owen Browne, John McGibney, Patrick Conneff, Carmel Neville, Gerry Penny, Terry McHugh, Brid Timlin, Anne Long, Joanne Cullen, Pat McGrath, Ken Campbell, James Rossite, Marie Scanlon, Willie McKeon, Patrick Finegan, Keith Fitzgerald, Rory Barnes, Veronica Robinson, Helen Lawley, Ann O'Hare, Marie O'Loughlin, Dorothy Dorrie Richardson, Carmel Tonge, James Walsh, Sean McBride, Mary Maher, Mary Nicholson, Robbie Fitzgerald, Kathleen McCabe, Joe Doyle, Pdraig McGowan, Michael Walsh, Baby Fionn William Desmond, Pascal O'Leary, Michael Governey, Mary Gorey, Emily Parkes, Patrick Flanagan, Pat Tunney, Baby Scott Robin Quirke,

Sheila Campbell, Margaret Gaffney, Elizabeth Nicholson, Linda Kavanagh, Sophie Thomas, Bernard Geraghty, Frank Colwell, Kathleen Priestley, Eileen Byrne, Thomas Pender, Theresa Morgan, Richard Keegan, Trish Butterly, Mary McSweeney, Ena Kelly, Monica O'Connell, Kathleen Sheridan, Patricia Fallon, Kathleen Kirwan, Ena Gurhy, Elizabeth Lil White, Moira Kelly, Ann Corrigan, Phyllis Daly, Walter Broderick, Peggy O'Connor, Gerry Smith, Fintan Keegan, Breda Cosgrave, Therese Kelly, Marie Conboy, Mary Quigley, Margaret Gorman, Sheila Cullen, Gerry Thornton

Anne Quinn, Colm Christle, Patricia Doyle, Hazel McLoughlin, Paddy Kearney, Kathleen Sweeney, Rita Reynolds, Susan McMahan, Brian Harris, Judy Brennan, Jim O'Dwyer, Nell Kenny, Margaret Campell, Connie Lyons, Des English, Josephine Moran, Sheila O'Reilly, Sean Wallace, Fred Dundon, Collette O'Neill, Hanna Hendricken, Nancy Donohoe, Michael Masterson, Terry Merriman, Sean Crowley, Betty Molloy, Sean Keeley, Brid Quinn Claire Lang, Lena Nicholson, David Byrne, Geraldine O'Reilly, Patricia Doherty, Joan Kennedy, Mary Power, Sarah Kelly, Chris O'Reilly, Gay O'Connor, Joan McConnell, Jim Power, Declan Devereux, Jo Kane, Patrick O'Neill, Beryl Burke, James Wilson, Sheila Mooney, Douglas Thornton, Celcie Devereux, Ronald O'Toole, Carmel O'Reilly, David Kirwan, Thomas Jordan, Nora White, Flor McGillicuddy, Matthew Moloney, Angela Leonard.

We also think of those of other churches and other faiths and non, who ask for our prayers and those who have no one to pray for them.

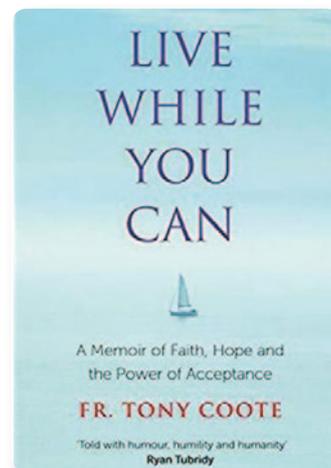


Please come and remember with thanksgiving at all Services of Remembrance in your Parish.

Prayer and Spirituality



Fr. Tony Coote R.I.P., former Parish Priest of Mount Merrion, who was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease in February 2018, tells the story of his own life and how he faced up to the devastating diagnosis, with faith hope and acceptance. Fr Tony organised a fundraising walk of 550km, from Letterkenny in Donegal to Ballydehob in Cork and in the process raised over €700,000 for MND research and care. Fr Tony's three pillars for his ministry as a priest were inclusivity, compassion and love. In the words of our Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, 'this book will change the way you will look at your life.'



Where do Weekend Collections Go?

First Collection:

Together with the Christmas & Easter dues, the First collection goes to the Diocesan Common Fund to make provision for the support of all the priests of the diocese, those in active ministry (including our own priests) and the many sick and retired priests of the diocese.

Second Collection: (SHARE)

This collection goes to assist the less resources parishes with refurbishment of Churches, the provision of Parish

Pastoral Centres. It also assists greatly with the fund for the administration of the diocesan pastoral services in the diocese.

Special Collections: Accord, Crosscare etc...

These collections go to support the work of the respective agencies.

Thank you for your ongoing support, it is very much appreciated.

USEFUL SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Fr. Gerard W. Hughes SJ: God of Surprises: In Hughes' own words 'this book has only one purpose – to suggest some ways of detecting the hidden treasure in what you may consider a most unlikely field, yourself.' A bestselling book that has been described as one of the great books of spiritual guidance.

Sacred Space is a free APP developed by the Jesuits based on the spirituality of Ignatius Loyola, which emphasises seeing God in all things. The APP guides you through a prayer session in six stages.

Reimagining the Examen is a free APP you can download to your phone that offers a unique prayer experience, that guides you through reflection on your day based on the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola. The Examen is often performed at night before we go to sleep. It allows us to replay the day we are leaving behind, and helps us become more aware of how to live the next day. Similar to a time of mindfulness but with an awareness of our loving God's presence and a sense of our responsibilities to others.

Universalis is an APP that costs a few euros but is well worth it. It provides all the readings for Mass, the liturgy of the hours/ morning and evening prayers of the Church, and information about all the feast days.

Spirit Radio is an Irish Christian radio station 89.9fm and has some excellent interviews and uplifting music, access podcasts www.spiritradio.ie.



Archbishop Diarmuid visited Ballyroan Parish recently, to institute, the ministry of Reader on eight candidates preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, (including a parishioner Frank Browne) and Candidacy on another student preparing for the Priesthood. It really was a lovely ceremony and evening for all present and made special by the music and singing of Gifford and Joe and also the kind ladies who provided the hospitality.

Regular Church & Christmas 2019 Schedule

Church of the Holy Spirit, Ballyroan

December 19th

Carols by Candlelight (Ruah Choir) in the Ruah Centre

December 21st

Reconciliation/Confessions 10am

December 24th

Christmas Eve Children's Mass 6.30pm (Ruah choir)

Carols before Mass 8.30pm and Vigil Mass 9pm (Ballyroan Adult Choir)

December 25th, Christmas Day

Mass 10am, Blessing of toys (Ballyroan Adult Choir)

Mass 12 noon (Gifford & Joe Whittle)

December 26th, St. Stephen's Day

Mass 10am

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday Mass 10am

Saturday Vigil Mass 7pm

Sunday Masses 10am & 12 Noon

Working Holy Day Mass 10am

Vigil of Holy Day Mass 7pm

You are welcome to the Church of the Holy Spirit Ballyroan

Church of the Good Shepherd, Churchtown

December 15th

Christmas Carol Concert 3pm

December 17th

Christmas Reconciliation Service 10:30am

December 19th

Christmas Carol Service 7:30pm-8.30pm

December 24th Christmas Eve

Mass 10am
Confession 10.30am-11.30am
Vigil Mass of Christmas 7.15pm
Mass of Christmas Night 9pm

December 25th Christmas Day

Mass for Christmas Day
10am & 12 noon

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday Mass 10am

Saturday Mass 10am,
Vigil Mass 7.15pm

Sunday Mass 10am & 12 Noon

Monday-Friday Morning Prayer & Rosary 9.20am

Rosary and Morning Prayer of the Church is celebrated every week-day at 9.15am.

Night Prayer of the Church is celebrated every Saturday at 8.20pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel: All welcome.

Church of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham

Sun Dec 15th 8.30am, 9.30am, 10.45am Masses

12pm: A special mass for all those who find the Christmas period a difficult time to get through.

7pm: Carol Service

Mon Dec 16th Mass 10am

Tues Dec 17th Mass 10am
Reconciliation Service 7.30pm

Weds Dec 18th 10am Mass

Thurs Dec 19th 10am Mass

Fri Dec 20th 10am Mass

Sat Dec 21st 11am: Mass
Confessions 11.30am – 12.30pm & 2.30 – 3.30pm
6.45pm: Vigil Mass

Sun Dec 22nd 8.30am, 9.30am, 10.45am & 12pm Masses

Mon Dec 23rd 10am Mass

Tues Dec 24th Christmas Eve
10a: Mass

Confessions 10.30am-11.30am & 2.30pm – 3.30pm

5pm: Mass with Nativity Play – Children

7pm: Vigil Mass with Beaufort Choir

9pm: "Midnight" Mass with Parish (Adult Choir) Blessing of Crib. Begins with carols at 8.30pm

Weds Dec 25th Christmas Day:

8.30am: Mass with Cantor

9.30am: Mass with Gospel Choir

10.45am: Mass with Beaufort Pas-Pupils Choir

12pm: Mass with the Folk Group

Thurs Dec 26th 11am Mass

Fri Dec 27th 11am Mass

Sat Dec 28th 11am Mass, 6.45pm Mass

Sun Dec 29th 8.30am Mass, 9.30am Mass
10.45am Mass 12pm Mass

Mon Dec 30th 10am Mass

Tues Dec 31st 11am: Mass

4.30pm: Service of Light & prayers to mark the close of the year.

Weds Jan 1st

11am: Mass for World Peace and to ask God's blessing for the year that lies ahead.

Thurs 2nd Jan Normal Mass Times resume

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 6:45pm

Sunday Morning: 8:30am (Irish), 9:30, 10:45 (Family Mass) & 12 Noon

Working Holy Days: Vigil: 7:30pm

Morning: 10am **Evening:** 7:30 p.m.

Weekdays: Mon. to Fri. 10am

Saturdays & Bank Holidays: 11am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays After the 11am Mass & 6:30pm

We would like to invite you to attend our Christmas Liturgies at this special time of year.



As Christians we remember the Nativity, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, Saviour and the Anointed one.

The angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Look, I bring you news of great joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a Saviour is born to you; he is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10-11*