



Dear Parishioners

Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth: what familiar, beautiful and power laden words particularly associated with this season. Earth, your life, your parish is "a place of God and a place of glory", to borrow words from our Archbishop. What a magnificent vocation bestowed by God on each one of us made possible by Emmanuel - God with us.

May we all enjoy moments of profound revelation and renewed hope this Advent, Christmas and New Year.

Nollaig Shona.

Canon Adrienne



Schedule of services for December 2020
(under current Government Level 5 restrictions)

We are currently live-streaming our **Sunday 10.30am service** and plan to continue for the foreseeable future. Updates will be communicated to all parishioners via our weekly email bulletin, or by post for parishioners not on-line, including details of our **Carol and Christmas services**.

Every Sunday

The 10.30am Sunday service in Church will also be available (after 24 hours)



on YouTube at

www.youtube.com/channel/UCso-NPjtC4skX-mIKICJ-JA

Select Vestry update

Code of Governance sub-committee working on parish policies and preparing to register select vestry members as trustees as will be required in 2021.

Parish Covid-19 sub-committee constantly updating premises users' protocols and risk assessments to ensure safety for all users of all facilities when activities re commence.

Bus Connects sub-committee met with project managers on 13th Nov to discuss implications for property fronting on to Rathfarnham Road.

Telecommunication system in Parish Office and rectory changed as service problematical. We apologise if you kept getting an engaged tone on the phone - we were unable to make or receive calls(!) and the internet was very unreliable.



At this time of year, we ask for donations of new toys, books, puzzles, and toiletry gift-sets for children and teenagers in need. We appreciate that, right now, shopping is a particular challenge, so we have made a few suggestions and options below, should you wish to contribute to the Drive-Thru.

- **Click and Collect** at toy stores e.g. **Smyths, Nimble Fingers, Cogs the Brain Shop, Argos**
- **Gift Vouchers** for Dublin toy stores
- **Online with Delivery** toy stores, preferably Irish (eg the above) or www.jiminy.ie for the eco-friendly option
- **Cash/cheque donation** (the Parish will purchase toys with any monetary donations).

Christmas 2020 will be like no other and charities will rely heavily on donations. With this in mind we are also hoping to make up **Christmas Hampers** for families in need. If you would like to donate a tin of biscuits/sweets, Christmas puddings, mince pies, selection boxes or any other luxury item, we would really appreciate it.

Once again, we will operate a Drive-Thru set up in the church car park - simply drive in and drop off your donation to one of our friendly volunteers. Many thanks!

For more information, contact:

Linda O'Connor 087 6383844 Lynn Storey 087 6957061 Catherine Slacke 087 2669066



Parish News Round-up

Church Review and Gazette - renewal of subscriptions:

The subscription for **Church Review** for 2021 is €40. Please place cash or cheques (made payable to 'Pam Shorten') in the envelope provided with the December issue and post or drop into myself at 114 Longwood Park, Rathfarnham, phone 4937179 / 085 7135848 **before 31st December, please.**

If anyone would like to receive or discontinue receiving the magazine from January 2021, contact me before 4th January. **Many thanks, Pam Shorten.**

The monthly format Gazette magazine goes from strength to strength under new editor **Emma Blain**. The subscription for 2021, which is €45, is now due. Please contact **Andrew Shorten** on **493 7179** if you would like to take a copy.



Confirmation Class

Even though we don't yet know when government restrictions on church attendance will be eased and it will be possible for the Archbishop to confirm candidates in 2021, our classes began on 15th Nov by Zoom.

Exploring what the word confirmation means, the candidates decided it was them making themselves available to God, to bless all creation through their words and deeds based on their Christian values.



Good News Club

Plans and designs are under way to create a nativity-themed frontal for the Holy Communion table. We hope to make eco-friendly decorations for the trees outside the church. These are also linked with the lectionary based themes we are exploring: Kingship and Advent! We welcome parishioners from 3rd-6th class to join in on Zoom. Please contact **Corinna** 087 6663594.



Sunday Crèche

With the current restrictions due to be lifted, we look forward to the church re-opening this December and we keep hopeful for a much brighter New Year.

The Toddler and Children's groups are continuing to work behind the scenes with most groups still taking place by Zoom. Sunday crèche may not be open but we are just a phone call away: **Kim Bardon** 085 147312, for **TODDLERZONE** contact **Heather Wilkinson** 087 929 1990 and **SUNDAY CLUB** contact **Linda** 087 638 3844.

Merry Christmas from Kim and Susan. Wishing you a new year full of wonderful possibilities!



Diocesan Events

The Dioceses have asked **Mr. Turlough O'Sullivan** to facilitate parishes as we consider the impact Covid 19 continues to have on our worship, witness and wealth. Select Vestry hon secretaries and treasurers are invited to join with their rector in a Rural Deanery virtual gathering to share ideas and experiences. No date has been fixed yet for this meeting.

For more information, please contact the rector. **AG**



Toddlerzone

What a marvellous afternoon we had last Saturday 14th with our friends in **WLTD0?**



For anyone who has forgotten, or who never knew, **WLTD0** stands for **Who Let The Dads Out?** Officially it is for dads only but because of life at the moment they have opened it to families attached to Creche and Toddlerzone, and mums may take part as well. Firstly, I would like to thank the group sincerely for including us in their activities and also for organising the whole afternoon on the 14th. Many thanks to **Lynn Storey** and **Robert Hilliard** for all their hard work. Any Toddlerzone members who enjoyed last Saturday (and I have it on good authority that everyone did!) keep your eye out for advance notice as I have heard a rumour that there will be another one in December!!

Creche and Toddlerzone cover children from 0 - 3 years. We also include mums-to-be. If you are at home on your own, days can be long and boring. If we can be of any help to anyone, please ring one of us and see if we can assist. Names and numbers are at the end of this piece.

December Birthdays

My technology skills have been put to the test recently by purchasing a new lap top and I am nearly sure that I messed up the November birthdays!! Very sorry about that. If your offspring's birthday is missing or incorrect **PLEASE** contact me and I will correct it next time. For December, **Indie M** will be 2.

Heather Wilkinson 087 9291990, **Kim Bardon** 085 1473112 and **Susan Christie**

Freewill Offering Envelopes

If anyone wishes to join (or leave) the Scheme for 2021, please contact me - **Beryl Dawson**, ph. 4933203.

We hope to be able to deliver your 2021 envelopes by the end of December! If you would like your subscriptions to qualify for the 2020 Tax Rebate, please ensure they are all in by **Sunday, 27th December**. Envelopes can be left into the Parish Office or Rectory. **Thank you. Beryl**

Garden of Remembrance

The arborist has conducted a survey of the trees in the area where it is proposed to develop the Garden of Remembrance and we await new drawings and a schedule of works. For more information, please contact **Gordon, Linda** or **Roger**.

Safeguarding Trust

The triennial audit was held on 6th November by Diocesan SGT Officer, **Olive Good**. Panel members (**Joan Love, Philip Daley and the rector**) are currently gathering in Annual Declaration and Review from all leaders/volunteers.

From the Treasurer

The Treasurer would like to thank everyone for ongoing contributions to the Church and charities. These are all especially welcome at this time and for the challenging year that we all have had. The Treasurer also reminds parishioners that the Parish can reclaim tax on any contributions over €250 in any calendar year (including contributions to the fete and the organ fund). If anyone needs any further information, please feel free to contact the Treasurer by phone. **Jonathan Mills** 01 494 3605

Sunday Club

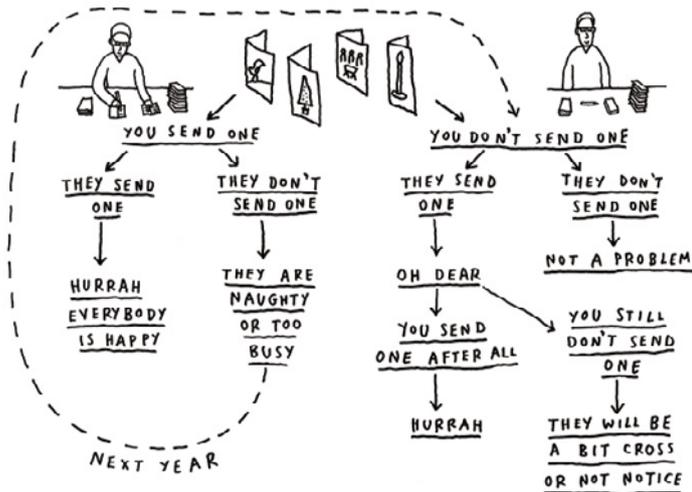
Sunday Club children making and enjoying 'Christ the King crown cookies.'

We will meet on Zoom on Sunday 6th December at 11am.

If you would like to join us, just give me a buzz, or email me at linda.f.oconnor@gmail.com Linda 087 6383844



CHRISTMAS CARDS



@davewalker / davewalker.cc

THE CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

MAKE YOUR OWN BY DRAWING LINES BETWEEN THE TWO COLUMNS

	OUR SON	WON AN OSCAR	
	GRANDMA	IS TRAINING TO BE A LAWYER	
	OUR DAUGHTER	CAUGHT A MOUSE AND LEFT IT ON THE STAIRS	
	THE CAT	IS FALLING APART	
	OUR HOUSE	GOT MARRIED IN AUGUST	
	THE VICAR	HAD A MAKEOVER	
	NEXT DOOR'S DONKEY	HAD A LOVELY HOLIDAY IN THE CARIBBEAN	
	GEORGE CLOONEY	KEEPS US AWAKE BY CONSTANTLY HEE-HAWING	

Wishing the Rathfarnham Parish family a very happy and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to being together again in 2021.



Another fantastic response from Rathfarnham Parishioners to our Drive-Thru Harvest appeal - many thanks!

It was with great joy and gratitude that we received your food gifts at our Drive-Thru Harvest collection at the church last month.

In true Rathfarnham spirit, your generosity was once again overwhelming. Our church was packed to the rafters with much needed food and treats that have now been distributed to the charities close to our hearts - namely, An Cosán, Belcamp Crèche, Saoirse Women's Refuge and Mendicity.

Kelda (Belcamp Childcare Services) wrote on 23rd October:

"A sincere thank you to all Rathfarnham parishioners for your fabulous donation of food for the centre. There is such a gorgeous assortment of food that we have decided to use some directly in the rooms with the children. Some we will put into hampers to donate to families that we are currently concerned about and who are attending our service."



Material for the **January** issue of the Church Review and News For You should be sent to the Rector by **12th December**.
Please email your contributions to rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com and adriennegalligan@gmail.com

Parish Contacts

Rector: Canon Adrienne Galligan, 41 Rathfarnham Road, Terenure, Dublin D6W XV62. Tel: 01 490 5543. Mobile: 086 0390866.

Email: adriennegalligan@gmail.com

Diocesan Reader Joan Forsdyke 087 947 5548

Parish Secretary Andrew Shorten 01 490 5543

Tues/Wed/Thurs mornings 9.30am-12.30pm

Email: rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com

Hon Secretary Leslie Deacon 01 494 6062

Hon Treasurer Jonathan Mills 01 494 3605

Churchwardens (Rector's) Rebecca Middleton 01 493 0687

(People's) John Deacon 087 126 5325

Glebewardens (Rector's) George James 087 988 8754

(People's) Alan McMillan 087 260 1799

Stewardship Beryl Dawson 01 493 3203

Organist & Choir Director Jacqueline Mullen, Paul Mullen

Email: music.rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com

Crèche Kim Bardon 085 147 3112

Toddlerzone Heather Wilkinson 01 494 7930

Sunday Club Linda O'Connor 087 638 3844

Good News Club Corinna O'Dwyer 087 666 3594

WLTD0? Lynn Storey 087 695 7061

Robert Hilliard 087 618 7058

National School Principal Joyce Perdue 01 494 3470

Church Review Pam Shorten 01 493 7179

Scripture Readers' Rota Andrew Shorten 01 493 7179