



Dear Parishioners

A pre-Advent thought.

Reading chapter 23 of Matthew's Gospel recently reminded me again how Jesus lived in a war zone, with the Roman Empire holding sway and the children of Israel being its subjects. I wondered for him tho which was the worst occupation - the political/military one of Rome or the harsh spiritual occupation of their faith by the scribes/Pharisees and Sadducees who heaped rules and laws onto the ever struggling faithful?

Who occupies your spiritual life/space? In light of our diocesan mission for all parishes and parishioners to Renew, Release, Reach, may you make time to occupy your own spiritual space with Jesus, and satisfy your soul. Amen.

Adrienne



Diocesan Synod

A change of venue, a change of structure, a change of focus - how uplifting it was to attend DS on 17th October in Alexandra College, Milltown.

6 parish representatives were there (David Whyte, Philp Middleton, Leslie Deacon, Andrew Kyle, David Johnston, Paula Donovan and also Morgan Bardon as a representative of the lay Diocesan Council's members).

Renew, Release, Reach is the mission focus for the united dioceses: the vision is for our dioceses and every parishioner to be **Renewed in Faith; Released for Ministry; Reaching every community** with the hope that Christ offers. What that looks like in Rathfarnham is up to us to shape - so lets begin with asking God through our prayer lives what this means for you personally and what you see it means for us as a Christian community and let's get talking!

Fête Funds Update

We are hugely grateful to Herman & Wilkinson auctioneers for their continued support in arranging for our excess items to go under the hammer and realize more revenues for the parish long after the May Fête has concluded. The receipts always bring a smile and much appreciation. To date about €2,000 has been added to the May tally. **Thank you to David and staff at Herman & Wilkinson, Rathmines.**

HERMAN'S

Parish Diary for November

The 10.30am Sunday service is also live-streamed and is available on the Parish YouTube channel after 24 hours at www.youtube.com/channel/UCso-NPjtC4skX-mIKICJ-jA.



Each Thursday	10.30am Holy Communion 2 service in the Millennium Side Chapel
Each Sunday	8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1 10.30am Morning Prayer/Holy Communion
Sunday 1st	8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1 10.30am All Saints Day Morning Prayer
Sunday 8th	8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1 10.30am Remembrance Sunday Service of Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1 10.30am Worshipping God Together
Sunday 22nd	8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1 10.30am Kingship of Christ Holy Communion 2
Saturday 28th	5pm Winter Melodies Concert with refreshments afterwards
Sunday 29th	8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1 10.30am 1st Sunday of Advent Holy Communion 2

www.rathfarnhamparishcoi.org

Saturday 28th November from 5pm - 6pm

Tickets: €15 per person (available at the door, cash or card) which includes refreshments afterwards (children free!)

Ladybirds

Our Ladybirds have been busy little bugs.

We have been celebrating **International Day of the Girl**, hearing about inspiring girls and discovering just how amazing girls can be. We made our own Girl Power bracelets to remind us to be proud of who we are and we can do anything we set our minds to. There has also been plenty of wiggling, giggling and dancing along the way! We also enjoyed our Children's and Youth Organisations Harvest Service, where the girls made beautiful wreath decorations for the church and sang their hearts out to some familiar songs. Ladybirds is for girls aged 5-7, and we meet every Saturday 10-11.30am Little ladies, big smiles and lots of fun ahead as our Ladybirds continue their adventures!

Sara, Hilary (Rainbow) & Róisín



Youth Group

In October our youth group enjoyed getting together to play Rounders in Rathfarnham Castle and had a lovely afternoon at the DGYC Big Day Out where they played sports, swam and mixed with a number of other youth groups. A few of our youth groupers helped out during Sunday service and even helped at a Christening. We extend our thanks and wish a fond farewell to Rev. Mike who will be missed. Youth group is for post-confirmation teenagers who gather bi-monthly on Sundays 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Hilary & Olga



Girl Guides

Good news! The Girl Guides (for girls 10-14 yrs) are back with leader **Susan Webber** at the helm and two new leaders. 12 guides joined us as we reopened on 2nd Oct.

Senior Branch has also reopened with 7 girls aged 14-17 years in the Bird Room led by **Rachel Howe**. We welcome enquiries from volunteer leaders who must be aged 18+ and from girls who would like to join us on Fridays in the War Memorial Hall 6.30pm-7.45pm. RH.



Good News Club

Thank you to all our clubbers who always volunteer to lead parts of our monthly Family Service and this month also lead at the Children's and Youth Organisations Harvest service. **You are born leaders!**

Well done on the Harvest Shopping Dash too! The GNC Harvest Window decorating sent out lovely aromas during the service and we are delighted that the fresh veg went to a charity afterwards. No waste, thank God. As we continue eating our way through the Old Testament we learnt about the ox, goat and wheat sacrifices and offerings that secured forgiveness for the children of Israel. Culminating with the Year of Jubilee we blew our 'shofars' to announce the celebration.

We meet on **Tuesdays from 6.45pm -7.45pm** in the War Memorial Hall. Children from 3rd class upwards are very welcome to join us for bible time, games, activities and chat! Enrolment forms available in church any Sunday or from the rector by texting **086 0390866** or email to **adriennegalligan@gmail.com**. We look forward to catching up with our clubbers and welcoming new members.
Corinna, Adrienne.



Beavers

Since our last update, the year of Beavers has begun.

We are delighted to have welcomed 13 new Beavers this year, along with several new leaders as well. We've had some nights in Bushy Park preparing for outdoor activities and getting to know each other, followed by Shelter Building in Cruagh Woods, which is always a highlight of the calendar. **BSL Robert**

RPNS

Annual Book Day was held on 9th Oct with many wonderful book characters coming to life as the children and staff donned costumes before heading out on their sponsored walk. Dalmatians were seen darting in and out of rooms and corridors avoiding Cruella in hot pursuit!!

'What a wuff day' one staff member was heard muttering in the staff room!!



Toddlerzone

In October we had an extremely informative and practical Paediatric First Aid training afternoon in the Parish centre.

Topics covered included temperatures and fevers, respiratory concerns, choking, CPR, burns, and lots more. It was attended by mums, dads, group leaders, and even grandparents-in-waiting.

All came away feeling a lot more confident dealing with any potential emergencies, and hoping our new found skills will never be required! We are very grateful to Karen Prunty for providing the training, and to SDCCC for the generous grant towards the cost. November in Toddlerzone will be all about animals - we'll be going to the Zoo, and we'll be stomping with dinosaurs, so join us for lots of hands-on sensory fun and chats in the Parish centre from 10-11.15am.

November dates: Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th.

Linda (087 6383844) Lynn, Helen, Julie and Susan



Wednesday Club

Our next meeting will be held on **25th November**.

As is usual in November, we will have an outing, this time to the **Shackleton Museum** in Athy.

Time will be available for us to have lunch and possibly some 'retail therapy'. Our coach will leave Rathfarnham Castle Carpark at 10am. We intend to return before 5pm. Some parking should be available in our Churchyard. We will advise on the cost of the coach soon. We are looking forward to an interesting day out. Any Parishioner or Friend would be very welcome to join us.

David Whyte, 087 7826054



Flower Rota co-ordinators

After 35+ years of expertly arranging flowers in the church on regular Sundays and for many special occasions, June Wilkinson handed the role, which she shared with Carol McGouran for decades, over to Patricia England and Thelma Tutty on 10th Oct during the Harvest decorating coffee and chat time.

We are hugely grateful to June and Carol for carrying the (watering) can for so long!

A sincere Thank You too to Patricia and Thelma as they start arranging rotas for 2027!!

If anyone would like to be involved in the weekly floral provision please get in touch with Patricia or Thelma.

Pop-In

Pop-In is on Thursdays in the Parish Centre, immediately after the 10.30am service.

Tea/coffee and biscuits are available from 11-12am for anyone who just wants to drop in for a chat. We raised just over €500 for The Hospice in Harolds Cross at our Pop-In Coffee Morning in early October. Thank you for your wonderful support.

Pop-In Book Club will return on **Thursday November 26th** at 11am when we will be discussing **Allen Levi's *Theo of Golden***.



There will be **NO Pop-In Book Club** in December so you can get a head start on January's book, 2023's historical fiction novel ***Lady Tan's Circle of Women*** by **Lisa See**.



It is inspired by the true story of Tan Yunxian, a woman physician from 15th-century Ming Dynasty China. At 8 years old, after the death of her mother, Yunxian goes to live with her paternal grandparents who are both trained physicians. Her grandmother Ru decides to pass on her women's medicine to her granddaughter. Yunxian demonstrates extraordinary abilities in the field of medicine. Her best friend becomes a skilled midwife and they often work together to care for women who are neglected and misunderstood by the male doctors.

November Pop-In Book Club: Thursday 26th at 11am in the Parish Centre. OMacW

Rathfarnham Parish Badminton Club

It's Dublin and District League and Cups time!

This season we have 2 ladies, 2 men's and 3 mixed teams entered into the competitions. It's all go on club nights with team members getting in as much partnership practice as possible.

For the first time in a good few years the club is at maximum level, indeed we had to close our doors to a number of new enquiries. It's great to see such an interest in the great sport of badminton. It's been all go for the committee, why not see who we are on www.instagram.com/rathfarnhampbc Further information on the club www.rathfarnhampbc.weebly.com or email us on rathfarnhampbcsecretary@gmail.com **Lynn Frost**



Confirmation 2027

While we do not have the date for the confirmation service in 2027 yet, **classes will begin on Sunday evening 8th Nov at 6.30pm-7.30pm in the Church.**

Parents, please come with your candidate to fill out the necessary forms. Since I am now the lone cleric in the parish a rota of parents will need to be set up to help with supervision on Sunday evenings and to keep us Safeguarding compliant.

Thank you in advance of your help. I look forward to seeing you all on 8th Nov. **AG**

Safeguarding

The Parish Child Safeguarding Panel (**Catherine Slacke-Fitzpatrick, Philip Daley and the Rector**) attended on-line training for Panel members on the 22nd October 2026 at 7.00pm - 9.30pm. Safeguarding procedures have been revised and updated since General Synod in May 2026.

Thank you to all volunteers who have returned your Annual review form - outstanding forms would be very welcome back please! **AG**





Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who donated non perishable foods and warm winter clothes for distribution to people in need. Your generosity is very much appreciated and acknowledged by the charities.

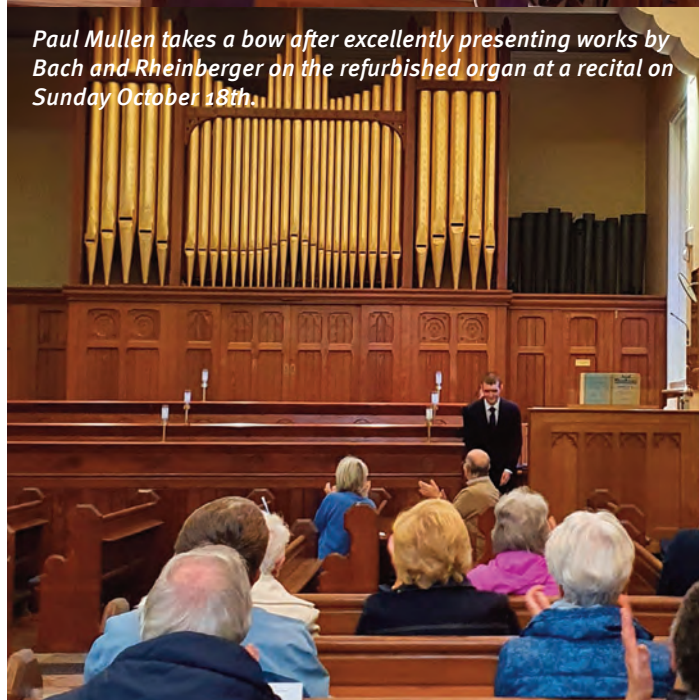
Thank you also to everyone for the flower baskets distributed to our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are housebound or who can only occasionally join us. Again these were gratefully received.



Rev. Mike signing off as curate on October 11th..



Presentation of gifts from the parish by Philip Middleton



Paul Mullen takes a bow after excellently presenting works by Bach and Rheinberger on the refurbished organ at a recital on Sunday October 18th.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

JONATHAN MILLS
Hon. Treasurer



Treasurer's Report October 2026

Some people have asked about contributing to the Parish by means of **MONTHLY STANDING ORDERS**, sometimes called Bank Transfers. These are Regular Payments, set up by you, from your bank, directly into the Parish bank account, that can be set up to go monthly or sometimes quarterly. They have the advantage, over weekly envelopes, in that:

- You are in control (they are not Direct Debits)
- The payment amounts can be varied, up or down, as means provide
- No scrambling for cash for the weekly envelopes
- If you miss church, e.g. during holidays, payments are still made
- They still count for Revenue Refunds (minimum €250 in a year)
- The Parish benefits from a regular income

So, if interested, please get in touch with myself and we can talk it through and I can provide details of the Parish Bank Account to pay into.

Best wishes, Jonathan Mills, Hon Treasurer 087 289 1483.

Church Steeple Repairs

On Tuesday, 22 September, a small group of onlookers gathered at 9.30am to watch three brave souls, clad in high-visibility jackets and helmets, ascend towards the heavens - or, more precisely, to the very top of the steeple - in a very large hoist. Their mission was to inspect the stonework for cracks so that a quotation could be prepared.

Despite a gentle breeze below, the hoist swayed as it rose, and more noticeably in the stronger winds at the top of the steeple. After 45 minutes, all three returned safely to the ground - much to our relief!

With the heights safely negotiated, our thoughts now turn to the figures. These repairs are essential to preserving our much-loved church for future generations. Meeting the cost will require careful planning, the continued generosity of our parish community and support with grants from heritage organisations.



War Memorial Hall Bay Window

Conservation joinery work has taken place on the restoration of the bay window at the WMH. The work took about 4 days to complete. We are very grateful to the Goulden family for a donation in memory of a much loved husband and father, **Richard Goulden** who died on 10th Feb 2026 which is funding this significant repair.

Thank you very much for thinking of us and future generations of War Memorial Hall users.

We now have an additional way to donate via QR code. Please scan the code to be taken to our donation page.



On Saturday 28th November at 5pm the church doors will be flung open and concert goes warmly welcomed to our Winter Melodies event.

Come and sing along, sit back and enjoy choir and musicians filling the air with songs and music new and old. We will be providing refreshments after the Winter Melodies event and Linda is hoping you fabulous Rathfarnham bakers will be able to provide a traybake or similar for the occasion?

Help setting up, serving and tidying up at the refreshments area is also needed.

So, if you can help out in any way, please get in touch with Linda, 087 638 3844. Many thanks.



From the Registers

Service of Blessing

At 4pm on 10th October **Louise (Blakely)** and her husband **Nicholas (Maffiold)** processed into Rathfarnham Parish church for their Service of Blessing on their recent marriage in Melbourne (18th Sept 2026). On 26th Sept Nic's father guided a hand-binding ceremony. Then on 10th Oct in Rathfarnham Church a gathering of family, friends and choir members celebrated with them and prayed every blessing for their future lives together.



Parish Lending Library

The Parish Library has been moved to the foyer of the Parish Centre. You will find a wide variety of books for children and adults, We hope that your Christian life will be enriched by reading some of these books.



In our library you will find books for children of all ages. For the very young *Bible for Toddlers* by Juliet David and a 'pop-up' book *Daniel in the Lion's Den* illustrated by John Patience. For older children *God Bless Me. A Child's Prayer Book* by Sophie Piper, *Hello, Goodbye. A Cycle of Poems for Children* by Jessica Brown and *Kids' Bible Dictionary* by Jean Fischer. All the books are beautifully illustrated and written in 'child-friendly' language. Details regarding borrowing books are above the top shelf of the bookstand. JF

This issue of NFY is sponsored by



Andrew Buckley Pharmacies

Family-Owned & Operated

Proudly supporting The Parish of Rathfarnham

Rathfarnham Village Branch

36 Main Street,
Rathfarnham
(01) 490 5256

St Enda's Drive Branch

5 St Enda's Drive,
Rathfarnham
(01) 493 3433

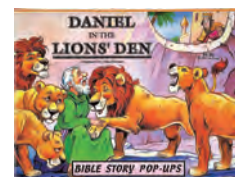
Open Sundays 12pm - 2pm

New Customers & Patients Always Welcome!

MEMBER OF
vital
pharmacies

From Hello, Goodbye - Trees:

Deep living, drawing deep from the earth
reaching deep to the sky
Birds know how high trees go
and stars know how long trees last
Their roots are what we try to have,
finding strength in secret pools
of water and silence.



Parish Contacts

Rector: Canon Adrienne Galligan, 41 Rathfarnham Road, Terenure, Dublin D6W XV62. Tel: 01 490 5543. 086 039 0866
Email: adriennegalligan@gmail.com

Choir Director & Organist Jacqueline Mullen, Paul Mullen
Email: music.rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com

Diocesan Readers Joan Forsdyke, Philip Middleton

Sunday Service Gerry Wilson, Joan Carty, David Howe,

Streaming Team: Josh Farrell, Morgan Bardon

Parish Secretary Kim Bardon 01 490 4098
Monday - Friday mornings 9.30am-12.30pm
Parish Office, Parish Centre, Rathfarnham Church, Main Street, Rathfarnham, D14TN93.
Email: rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com

Hon Secretary Andy Kyle 086 385 5279

Hon Treasurer	Jonathan Mills	087 289 1483
Churchwardens (Rector's)	Diwakar Punith	089 974 3166
(People's)	Sharon Macnaughton	086 194 4156
Glebewardens (Rector's)	George James	087 988 8754
(People's)	Alan McMillan	087 260 1799
Stewardship	Eamonn Cooke	087 709 3066
Toddlerzone	Lynn Storey	087 695 7061
Sunday Club	Leader needed	
Good News Club	Corinna O'Dwyer	087 666 3594
National School	Principal Eoin Leonard	01 494 3470
Church Review	Pam Shorten	01 493 7179
News For You & Website	Joan Carty	086 822 9607
	Email: rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com	