



Dear Parishioners

Have you ever had an “immersive experience?”

Maybe you went to a high tech art exhibition and found an artwork projected onto the gallery floor, walls and ceiling with maybe sound effects relevant to the city, land or sea scape of the painting? Immersed in the painting, you can wander along for example the Van Gogh ‘Avenue at Arles’ or sit under his ‘Starry Night.’ Imagination and immersion take you there. God in the person of Jesus had a totally immersive experience when he came to earth. Nothing high tech needed here, but life in all its rawness, cruelty, joys, triumphs, purpose.

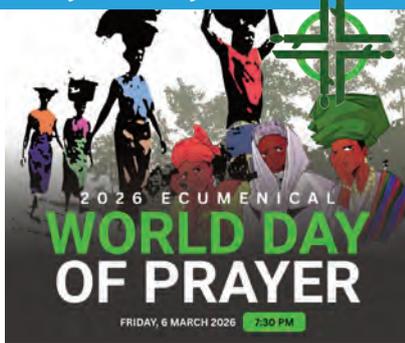


Through your baptism and ingrafting into the family of God Jesus continues to have a totally immersive experience through your life ... to the extent that you allow him enter into your challenges, joys, purpose. And ultimately he invites you to join him in a totally immersive heavenly and eternal experience thanks to his Resurrection. *Hallelujah! What a Saviour.* Happy Easter.

Adrienne

Ecumenical World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.



There will be an ecumenical service in Rathfarnham Parish Church on Friday March 6th at 7.30pm and all are very welcome to attend.

Annual Easter Vestry

The Annual Easter Vestry is scheduled for Sunday 12th April after the 10.30am service. Please note there will be **NO** 12 noon Holy Communion 1 service on 12th April.

Annual Church of Ireland Census 2025

Annual returns were submitted for 2025 Church attendance in Rathfarnham Parish on 9th Feb (166), 8th June (85), 21st Sept (134), and 23rd Nov (123).

There were 7 baptisms, 18 funerals, and no weddings. We also had 17 confirmation candidates in 2025.

Parish Diary for March

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

Each Thursday 10.30am Holy Communion 2 service in the Millennium Side Chapel

Each Sunday 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1

Sunday 1st 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Morning Prayer 

Friday 6th 7.30pm **Ecumenical World Day of Prayer** service in Rathfarnham Parish Church. All welcome. 

Sunday 8th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Holy Communion
4pm **Organ Recital for International Women's Day** followed by refreshments 

Sunday 15th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am **Mothering Sunday family service** followed by refreshments provided by the Scouts.  

Tuesday 17th 10.30am **Lá le Pádraig** Seirbhís Dhátheangach/Bilingual Holy Communion 

Sunday 22nd 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Morning Prayer
Confirmation in Zion Parish Church at 10.30am. 

Sunday 29th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am **Palm Sunday** ‘The Cross of Christ’ readings and hymns.  

Confirmation 2026

We are almost there!!! 

Confirmation Candidates are finalizing preparations for the **Rural Deanery Confirmation Service on 22nd March at 10.30am in Zion Parish Church.** And the desire is to continue as a post-confirmation group, maybe every other Sunday evening, for a time of catching up with one another and to encourage one another as parishioners. More info to follow. Meantime do remember to pray for our candidates who most of you know by now since they are greeting, reading, collecting, assisting and most importantly, worshipping with us on Sundays.

Confirmation Classes in March: Sunday 1st, 8th and 15th.

Ladybirds

The Rathfarnham Ladybirds have had a fantastic start to 2026.

We joined in with the Brownies and enjoyed a wet hike up in Tibbradden and already this year the girls have earned their engineering badge. They learned that engineering means thinking creatively, solving problems, and working together to build and test ideas. So many fun activities planned for St. Patrick's day and Mother's day! We are so proud of all our ladybirds. HF



Sunday Club

Dates for your Diary: Sunday Club in the Parish Centre during the 10.30am service Sunday March 1st and 29th.

Linda O'Connor, Mobile: 087 6383844
Email: linda.f.oconnor@gmail.com



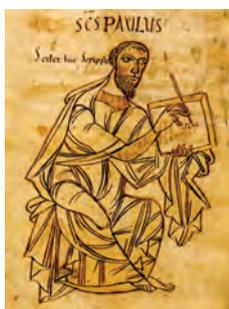
Good News Club

Now that the weather has settled a little the club is back in full swing and we have been island hopping with St Paul while he journeys back to Jerusalem on his 3rd Missionary journey.

And look what he started!
Letter writing to beat the band and all needing to be translated.

Did you know parts - if not all - of scripture is available to 7.7 billion people in 4,078 languages nowadays. Amazing!

Learn more at GNC: dates in March are Tuesdays 3rd, 10th and 24th.



Toddlerzone

Tuesday mornings in the Parish Centre, 10-11.15am.

Toddlerzone has now reached full capacity so if you would like to join us for some sensory play, story and sing-along, please get in touch in advance. **We meet most Tuesday mornings during school term.**

We welcome babies and toddlers with their mums, dads, grannies, grandads and minders, to name just a few, and would love to see you.

February Dates: 3rd, 10th and 24th.

NO Toddlerzone on Tuesday 17th or 31st.

Linda 087 6383844



Gruffalo sensory play

Evie and Laura enjoying The Gruffalo

Susan and Helen enjoying a well-earned cuppa after Gruffalo setup



Wednesday Club

Our next Wednesday Club will meet on 25th March, at 2.30 pm, in our Parish Centre.

Our speaker will be Rob Roe



(safetysquad.ie) who will speak on 'Safety in Our Homes' including fire safety.

This will be followed by the usual tea, home bakes and chat! Any Parishioner or friend would be very welcome to join us. David Whyte, 087 782 6054



Lent 'Scriptures in Art' Series

Lent reflections take a visual turn as we discuss art works relating to themes in Jesus' life between the Temptation in the Desert and Good Friday.

We meet Tuesdays in the Millennium Side Chapel 8.15pm - 9.15pm. *Please join us if you can.*

Rathfarnham Parish Badminton Club

Advance notice has been given of the AGM to be held in Ballinteer Community School on 11th May around 9 pm, following some games/competitions. Check us out on facebook or www.rathfarnhampbc.weebly.com Lynn



Easter Egg Appeal

At this time of year, we ask parishioners to bring Easter Eggs to church for the various children's charities supported by the Parish.

All Easter Eggs of any size will be very much appreciated so if you are in a position to pop an extra Easter egg into your shopping basket, we would be delighted.

Please bring them along to church on Sunday March 22nd or Sunday March 29th

(Palm Sunday). Alternatively, drop to Sunday Club, Toddlerzone, Pop-In, or to the office during the next couple of weeks - whichever is most convenient for you.

As always, your generosity is very much appreciated.

Linda and Catherine



ORGAN RECITAL



Join us to celebrate International Women's Day
ON SUNDAY 8th MARCH AT 4pm

with an organ recital presented by
Rathfarnham Parish Church, Main Street, Rathfarnham.

The very accomplished and established organists,
PATRICE KEEGAN and **CAROLE O'CONNOR**,
will play works appropriate to the occasion.

Tickets €15 / €10 concessions to include refreshments afterwards.



International Women's Day

Pop-In

Pop-In continues on Thursday mornings 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.



The first Pop-In Book Club will take place on **Thursday March 5th at 11am** and we will be discussing Kristin Hannah's *Night Road*.

Our Pop-In Book Club choice for April is *The Lamplighters* by Emma Stonex.

Inspired by the mysterious disappearance of three lighthouse keepers off the Hebrides in 1900, *The Lamplighters*

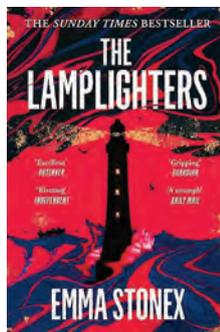
is a whodunnit, horror novel, ghost story and fantastically gripping psychological investigation rolled into one.

Set on New Year's Eve 1972, a boat arrives at the Maiden Rock lighthouse, 15 nautical miles southwest of Land's End to relieve the keepers from a two-month tour of duty. But all have all disappeared without trace, leaving the door barred, the table laid and the clocks stopped at a quarter to nine.

The Guardian called it a "superbly accomplished debut novel," and The Sunday Times said it had "the mesmerism of a churned winter sea."

Pop-In Book Club is open to all and we'd be delighted to see you for tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat about *The Lamplighters*.

April Pop-In Book Club: Thursday April 16th at 11am in the Parish Centre. OMacW



Church Music Dublin Workshop

We were delighted to host this workshop on Singing the Eucharist led by Jacqueline Mullen and David O'Shea in the afternoon of Saturday 7th Feb. which concluded with a celebration of Sung Eucharist.



Rathfarnham Parish National School

RPNS celebrated Grandparents' Day on 13th Feb which also incorporated a 90th Birthday Celebration for Ramon Gillis a Board member and very committed supporter of the school.
Many happy returns Ramon.



Ramon celebrates his 90th birthday with Mr Leonard, the principal and Mr. Duff (l), the deputy principal.

From the Registers

Funerals

We extend our sincere sympathy to **Eileen Goulden** on the unexpected death of her husband **Richard** on Tuesday 10th February. Richard's funeral service was held on Ash Wednesday 18th February in Rathfarnham Parish Church followed by a service of committal in Mount Jerome Crematorium. May Eileen together with their family **Anne, James and Carolyn**, in-laws **Mevlút and Marcus**, grandchildren and extended family know God's grace at this time of acute sadness.

It was with great sadness that news of **Carolyn Gordon's** death on Sunday 22nd Feb was received by Carolyn's many friends in and beyond the parish. To her husband **Ken**, daughter **Jacqui**, son **Ian**, together with **Con, Caroline, Claire** and all their families we extend our sincere condolences in their great loss. Carolyn's service was held in Rathfarnham Parish Church on 26th Feb followed by a service in Mount Jerome. Please remember the Gordon family in your prayers.

Parish 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 the books available there.

The Gardened Soul by Revd. David White.

David writes 'As I was cutting back some shrubs, I had a strong feeling of gratitude for being able to spend the afternoon gardening. The thought was, "Isn't it great to be able to garden?" This was quickly followed by a second thought. "But isn't it the garden that's gardening you". So begins Rev David's reflections in his book available to borrow from the parish Library.

Details regarding borrowing books are on the wall to the right of the bookstand. **JF**



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

Diocesan Readers Joan Forsdyke, Philip Middleton

Sunday Service Streaming: Gerry Wilson, Joan Carty, David Howe, Josh Farrell Morgan Bardon

Parish Secretary Kim Bardon 01 490 5543
Monday - Friday mornings 9.30am-12.30pm
Email: rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com

Hon Secretary Andy Kyle 086 385 5279

Hon Treasurer Jonathan Mills 087 289 1483

Churchwardens (Rector's) Dermot Cochran 087 445 4183
(People's) Samantha Hall sj73@live.ie

Glebe wardens (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 Linda O'Connor 087 638 3844

Good News Club Revd Mike Buchanan 085 262 0635

National School Principal Eoin Leonard 01 494 3470

Church Review Pam Shorten 01 493 7179

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