

From the Registers

Baptisms: On the 27th October **Martha Millie Deasy** (right) was baptised. Martha's parents are **Rebecca and Jack**, Godparents: **Kate and Elliot**.

On the 3rd November **Croía Willow Florence Fitzpatrick** (below) was baptised. Croía's parents are **Hilary and Conor**, Godparents: **Alan and Róisín**.



Wedding: We send our congratulations to **Rene Boles** and **David Johnstone** who were married in Glasgow on 27th Oct 2019. We wish them every happiness now and in future years.

This month's News For You is kindly sponsored by



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Material for the **January** issue of the Diocesan Review should be sent to the Rector by **12th December**. Material for the **February** issue of the Diocesan Review **AND** NFY should be sent to the Rector by **12th January**. **Please email your contributions to** rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com and adriennegalligan@gmail.com

Parish Contacts

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Hon Treasurer George Wallace 01 493 1662
Churchwardens (Rector's) Gerry Wilson 087 250 9824
(People's) John Deacon 087 126 5325

Glebe wardens (Rector's) George James 087 988 8754
(People's) Leslie Mantle 01 493 2369, 087 2512939

Crèche Kim Bardon 085 147 3112
Toddlerzone Heather Wilkinson 01 494 7930
Sunday Club Linda O'Connor 087 638 3844
Good News Club Corrina O'Dwyer 087 666 3594
National School Principal Joyce Perdue 01 494 3470
Stewardship Beryl Dawson 01 493 3203
Church Review Pam Shorten 01 493 7179
Scripture Readers' Rota Andrew Shorten 01 493 7179



Dear Readers

Celestial journeys abound as we consider angels, stars, Mary and Joseph, wise men and Jesus the Son of God - all making Bethlehem their destination.

And in time the message of Christ's birth and God's plan to save the world has gone beyond Bethlehem, on a global journey, spanning centuries and influencing cultures and creeds globally. The mystery and the message continue to journey in the recesses of our minds and spirits, sometimes crystal clear, sometimes opaque. As with the shiny steel globe sculpture in Newcastle Co Down, the nearer you stand to it the larger your presence on it, the further you stand from it the smaller your presence on it. "Jesus came and dwelt among us": near, close, relational - not distant, remote, obscure. His destination has been and continues to be more than historic towns. His destination is a place called "you". No wonder we delight to sing:



*How silently, how silently,
 The wondrous gift is given!
 So God imparts to human hearts
 The blessings of his heaven.
 No ear may hear his coming,
 But in this world of sin,
 Where meek souls will receive him, still
 The dear Christ enters in.*



May your Christmas and New Year be filled with peace, joy, love and hope, as God intended. Amen.

Canon Adrienne

Baghdad is one of the more urgent issues which the Bishops' Appeal is hoping to support this year.



The violent response of Iraqi security forces to the ongoing protests have forced the closure of St George's Church in Baghdad, the only Anglican church in the country. As well as praying for peace and the safety of Christians in Baghdad, Bishops' Appeal agreed to send funds to the parish to support them in this difficult time. This appeal came from the parish itself via the **Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East**. Their article on it can be seen here: <https://frme.org/400-dead-in-iraq-protests/>

December Parish Diary (January Diary inside)

Every Sunday	8am and 12 noon Holy Communion 1
Every Tuesday	10.30am Toddlerzone in the Parish Centre
Every Wednesday	8-9.15pm Choir Practice: new members welcome
Every Thursday	10.30am Holy Communion 2 in the Millennium Side Chapel, followed by Pop-In Tea/Coffee 8pm 'Towards Sunday' in the Millennium Side Chapel
Sunday 1st Dec	10.30am Morning Prayer with Holy Baptisms, Sunday Club in the Parish Centre, and Crèche 3-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) 6.15-7.15pm Confirmation Class in the Church Time TBC Youth Club Ice Skating in Tallaght
Tuesday 3rd Saturday 7th	6.45-7.55pm Good News Club in the Church 2.30-4pm WLDO? in the Parish Centre
Sunday 8th	10.30am Holy Communion with Sunday Club in the Parish Centre, and Crèche followed by coffee courtesy of The Select Vestry and viewing of the plans for the Garden of Remembrance 3-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) 6.15-7.15pm Confirmation Class in the Church NO Youth Club
Tuesday 10th	6.45-7.55pm Good News Club in the Church
Sunday 15th	10.30am ACE Worshipping God Together followed by Tea/Coffee kindly provided by the Rathfarnham Parish Guides Sunday Club Rehearsal after 10.30am service NO RYP rehearsals 7pm Candlelight Carol Service (collection in aid of Alice Leahy Trust) followed by Mulled Wine & Mince Pies served by the Confirmation Group in aid of the homeless charity the Mendicity Institution NO Youth Club
Tuesday 17th Wednesday 18th Thursday 19th	NO Good News Club 8pm Whist in the War Memorial Hall 7pm RPNS Carol Service in the school NO Pop-In Coffee NO Towards Sunday
Sunday 22nd	10.30am Holy Communion with Sunday Club in the Parish Centre, and Crèche 7.30pm Remembering Loved Ones service NO RYP rehearsals NO Confirmation Class NO Youth Club 7.30-9pm Youth Club in the War Memorial Hall
Tuesday 24th	11pm CHRISTMAS EVE Celebration of Holy Communion
CHRISTMAS DAY	8am and 12 noon Holy Communion 1 10.30am Family Communion service St Stephen's Day: NO 10.30am Holy Communion
Thursday 26th	
Sunday 29th	10.30am Holy Communion NO Sunday Club NO Crèche



Christmas isn't just a season. It's a feeling. *Edna Ferber*

Brownies and Ladybirds

Rathfarnham Brownies and Ladybirds recently visited the DSPCA to learn about their work and to see all the animals in the shelter. They gave a gift of knitted mice, which they had made with the help of the leaders, for the cats in the shelter. The Brownies and Ladybirds also packed shoe boxes for the Hope Foundation. In the coming weeks 5 new brownies will be enrolled.

Orla and leaders.

Church Review and Gazette

The subscription for 'Church Review' for 2020 is €40. Please place cash or cheques (made payable to 'Pam Shorten') in the envelope provided with the December issue. Envelopes may be put on the collection plate, given to the Churchwardens, or left with 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 2020, contact me before 22nd December. Many thanks, Pam Shorten.

The monthly format Gazette magazine goes from strength to strength under new editor Karen Bushby. The subscription for 2020, which is €45, is now due. Please contact Andrew Shorten on 4937179 if you would like to take a copy.

Confirmation 2020

16 young people are attending confirmation class this year. We are creatively considering our faith response to the statements in the Creed as well as considering how we can best serve God by engaging with the 5 marks of mission of the Anglican Church: to tell the Good News in actions as well as words; to teach others how we can nurture our faith; to tend to people in need; to transform society by adopting social issues and to treasure all creations. The Rural Deanery Confirmation service will be on the 9th February at 10.30am in Rathfarnham Parish Church and we welcome confirmands from Zion Parish and from the Grouped parishes of Crumlin & Chapelizod. Canon Adrienne



Parish Church Crèche, 0-3 years

Running most Sundays at the 10:30am service and located in the side Chapel we have a great selection of toys to keep kids of all ages entertained. The service is played through the speaker into the Crèche room. Questions? Pop in to see Susan Christy or me, Kim Bardon, I'm a Sunday Club Leader. Check out Toddlerzone section for birthday messages! Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers. From Susan and I, Merry Christmas and here's to a new year filled with wonderful possibilities.

Pop in and see us! - Kim & Susan

Crèche Rota December

- 1st: Suzanne Beardsley
- 8th: Jill Anderson
- 15th: Sarah Leonard
- 22nd: Tanya Correll
- 25th: Jill Anderson
- 29th: CLOSED

Crèche Rota January

- 5th: CLOSED
- 12th: Shirley Beattie O'Keeffe
- 19th: Sarah Leonard
- 26th: Suzanne Beardsley



Eco-Congregation

Please shop wisely this Christmas.

Estimated Decomposition Rates

Paper 2-4 Weeks	Leaves 1-3 Months	Orange Peel 3-6 Months	Milk Carton 5 Years	Plastic Bag 10-20 Years
Aluminum Can 200-400 Years	Plastic 6 Pk Ring 400-500 Years	Plastic Bottle 400-500 Years	Glass Bottle 500 Years-Forever?	Styrofoam Never?

Freewill Offering Envelopes

The 2020 envelopes will be ready for collection in the Parish Centre from Sunday, 15th December.

Please collect yours as soon as possible. Thank you.

Anyone wishing to join (or leave) the Scheme for 2020, please contact Beryl Dawson, ph. 4933203. If you want your subscriptions for the current year to qualify for the 2019 Tax Rebate, please ensure they are all in by Sunday, 29th December.

Girl Guides

Well, we've started this year well!

A big thank you to all the guides and parents who have supported us new leaders during these past few months! We are very appreciative. We have some different plans for the girls as our first year as leaders, and hope we live up to the expectations of quality so far! Kate, Maeve, and Orna



Good News Club

Under the theme "The Wind of the Spirit" since mid-term we have been looking at peace and appreciating one another's skills.

Harness the wind and air for good as Jesus did; eco power sources and the power of Holy Spirit. With Christmas on the horizon we plan to explore Heaven and Christmas throughout the world. Look out for our Christmas Banner in Church. GNC will recommence after Christmas on the 14th January 2020. Corinna, Nicola, Peter, Callum, George, Pat and the Rector



New Organists/Choir Directors

We are enormously grateful to Elizabeth Hilliard who has expertly directed the choir and with huge liturgical sensitivity played the organ in Rathfarnham since the summer. And all this amid the myriad of music related commitments that Elizabeth has. As Elizabeth takes her leave of us on Sunday 5th January we will always remain indebted to her for her many gifts in music she generously shared with us. On the 15th January we look forward to welcoming Paul Mullen and Jacqueline Mullen as our new organists/choir directors. We are

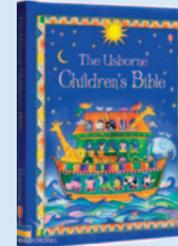


most blessed that the choir and all parishioners have a great love for worship through music nurtured by all our organists/choir directors over the years. We are sure that Paul and Jacqueline will continue to draw us further into God's freedom of spirit and worship in the years ahead. AG

Parish Library

In the parish library you will find a wide variety of books for children and adults: stories, prayers, Bible commentaries, theology and much more.

The Usborne Children's Bible is a beautifully illustrated selection of best-loved stories from the Old and New Testaments. Staying close to the traditional text, the stories are presented in a way that young listeners and young readers will find easy to understand. *Out on the hills near Bethlehem, some shepherds lay around their campfire, guarding their flocks of sheep during the night. Suddenly, they saw a bright light in the sky and an angel stood in front of them. They were very scared. "Don't be frightened," said the angel. "I have wonderful news for you, and for all people. Tonight the Son of God was born in a stable in Bethlehem." The shepherds were very excited, "We must go Bethlehem and look for this child" said one shepherd. They gathered up their things and ran as quickly as they could down the dark hills to the little town. They soon found the stable and crept quietly in. They looked at the baby lying in the manger and knelt down in front of him. They told Mary and Joseph what the angel had said to them.*



The library is in the Side-Chapel and everybody is welcome to use it. All books and children's DVDs can be taken out on loan; just sign your name in the notebook that you will find on the bookstand. Joan Forsdyke

Pop-In

Numbers are well up and continue to increase slowly so we must be doing something right! Every few weeks we have a cake & candles celebration for one of our members, complete with a rendering of "Happy Birthday to you"! It all adds to the fun. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Parish Centre on a Thursday from 11 till 12 noon. Why not drop in if you are passing! Pop-In will close for Christmas Holidays on Thursday 12th December and will re-open on Thursday 16th January. We wish all our customers a very Happy Christmas. Heather 0879291990, Susan and the team



Rathfarnham Parish National School

We are very grateful for the skills and competencies that the school Board Members have given to Rathfarnham Parish National School over many years.

As the Patron, teachers and parents are now in the process of nominating and electing new members to the Board can I take this opportunity to thank all past serving members for the hours of committed service you have given. Particularly this year, as Gillian Martin and Patricia England step away from Board commitments, can I thank them for serving unstintingly and overseeing the introduction of many new policies, curricula



and financial accounting systems required by the Department of Education and Skills. We greatly appreciate their expertise and dedication and that of all Board members, especially considering the many other demands on people's time. AG



Sunday Club

Excitement levels are rising in Sunday Club as we Get Ready for Christmas. We will be busy making crafts to both decorate the church with, and to take home. We will be rehearsing our Nativity and song to perform on Christmas Day. And most of all, we will be learning all about the true meaning of Christmas. We will have a very short rehearsal of our Nativity in church after ACE service on the 15th and also after Sunday Club on the 22nd. Sunday Club will be back on January 12th.

Birthdays Wishes: Happy Birthday wishes to Luke H who will be 4, and to Anna W, Bobby F and John M who will be 7. We hope you all have a fantastic day.

Linda and the team



Toddlerzone

Many thanks to the following people who have very kindly agreed to come onto the Toddlerzone Team: Jummy Samuel, Sandra Glover, Barbara Fahy and Liz O'Leary.

Lynn Storey is still considered as being on the team when she is available. We appreciate their offer of time and talents very much and hope they will enjoy their time with us. Numbers have increased as they usually do at this time of year and we are now officially full BUT we still have room for any parishioners who are ready to come along. When we say we are full we mean for extras. We always keep a few spaces for Parishioners so they are always welcome. Toddlerzone will close for the Christmas Holidays on Tuesday 10th December and will re-open on Tuesday 14th January 2020. We wish all our little ones and their families a very Happy Christmas.

Heather 0879291990 and Susan
December/January Pre-School Birthdays: We have no pre-schoolers at the moment with birthdays in December so in January we wish a very happy birthday to Adam O'B and Ava D who will be 4 and Elana O who will be 3. Have a great day when it comes!



Towards Sunday

Towards Sunday continues every Thursday at 8pm in the Millennium Side Chapel. Beginning with tea/coffee and chat we then discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Everyone's insights are very welcome as we seek to dig deeper into the context, meaning and application of the scriptures to today's world. The readings are emailed in advance to allow an opportunity for participants to mull over if they have any comments. AG



Wednesday Club

As usual there will be no meeting at the end of December. Christmas Greetings to All. We look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 29th January, when Ms. Stella Mew will give a talk on WB Yeats. If you have any queries, please contact David Whyte at 087 7826054.



Whist Club

We will have our Christmas Whist Drive in the War Memorial Hall on Wednesday, 18th December, starting at 8p.m. All welcome. There will also be a Whist Drive on Wednesday, 15th January. Enquiries to Rob and Beryl Dawson, 01 493 3203.



WLTD0?

We are delighted to have Robert Hilliard join the WLTD0? Team of leaders.

We would also like to congratulate Matthew and his dad Alan and mum Jessica on the birth of his new baby brother. On a very wet Saturday afternoon we had a good turnout of young children, along with their dads.

The theme for October was 'Planting' and everyone got stuck in to make some funny looking 'Cress Heads' to take home, water and watch as they grow. There were no complaints - messy activities go down very well - often the messier the better. The dads enjoyed a well-earned cuppa and some treats and WLTD0? banter and there were lots of toys set out for everyone to enjoy.



We meet again on Saturday 6th December in the Parish Centre 2.30-4pm when we will enjoy lots of seasonal festive fun. So why not wear your Christmas Jumper and join in the fun!. All dads, grandads and male carers along with their young children (0-6 years) welcome.

On Saturday 11th January we will be having an afternoon of Music - we will be making musical instruments, If you play a musical instrument you might like to bring it with you...and don't forget - kids too!

No need to book but for further information contact Lynn Storey 087 6957061 or Morgan Bardon 085 2728875, or email wltdorathfarnham@gmail.com

Youth Club

We wish all our young people and their families a very Happy Christmas and New Year. We plan to start back on the 19th January 2020 in the War Memorial Hall.

Inquiries to adriennegalligan@gmail.com or any of the leaders.



Peter Pan Jr. Musical in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund

There is so much excitement and energy in the War Memorial Hall on Sunday afternoons as 77 children and young people learn lines, dances, songs, movement and stage presence all under the expert tutelage of Gillian and Joyce.

Parents too are eager and enthusiastic for their young people to avail of this wonderful opportunity. As a parish we are indebted to all the leaders and participants and parents for the huge level of engagement with what is already a great show and will be even more polished as the 4th April 2020 draws near.

Please mark the date in your diary. You really don't want to miss this treat. AG



January Parish Diary

Every Sunday	8am and 12 noon Holy Communion 1
Every Tuesday	10.30am Toddlerzone in the Parish Centre
Every Wednesday	8-9.15pm Choir Practice: new members welcome
Every Thursday	10.30am Holy Communion 2 in the Millennium Side Chapel, followed by Pop-In Tea/Coffee 8pm 'Towards Sunday' in the Millennium Side Chapel
Thursday 2nd Jan	NO Towards Sunday
Sunday 5th	10.30am Morning Prayer NO Sunday Club NO Crèche NO RYP rehearsals NO Confirmation Class NO Youth Club
Saturday 11th	2.30-4pm WLTD0? in the Parish Centre
Sunday 12th	10.30am Holy Communion with Sunday Club and Crèche 3-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) 6.15-7.15pm Confirmation Class in the Church NO Youth Club
Tuesday 14th	10.30am Toddlerzone restarts in the Parish Centre 6.45-7.55pm Good News Club restarts in the War Memorial Hall
Wednesday 15th	8pm Whist in the War Memorial Hall
Thursday 16th	8-9.30pm Towards Sunday restarts in the Millennium Side Chapel
Sunday 19th	10.30am ACE Worshipping God Together 3-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) 6.15-7.15pm Confirmation Class in the Church 7.30-9pm Youth Club in the War Memorial Hall
Tuesday 21st	6.45-7.55pm Good News Club in the War Memorial Hall
Thursday 23rd	Pop-In restarts after the 10.30am service. 8-9.30pm Towards Sunday in the Millennium Side Chapel
Sunday 26th	10.30am Holy Communion with Sunday Club in the Parish Centre, and Crèche 3-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) 6.15-7.15pm Confirmation Class in the Church 7.30-9pm Youth Club in the War Memorial Hall 6.45-7.55pm Good News Club in the War Memorial Hall
Tuesday 28th	2.30pm Wednesday Club in the Parish Centre
Wednesday 29th	8-9.30pm Towards Sunday in the Millennium Side Chapel
Thursday 30th	8-9.30pm Towards Sunday in the Millennium Side Chapel



Please join the Select Vestry for coffee on **Sunday December 8th after the 10.30am service** to find out more about the **Rathfarnham Parish Garden of Remembrance**. The architectural drawings and plans will be available to view and a register of expressions of interest will be opened. Copies of the regulations and rules of management for the Garden will be available and a schedule of costs and conditions can also be obtained.

The Select Vestry, Rathfarnham Parish

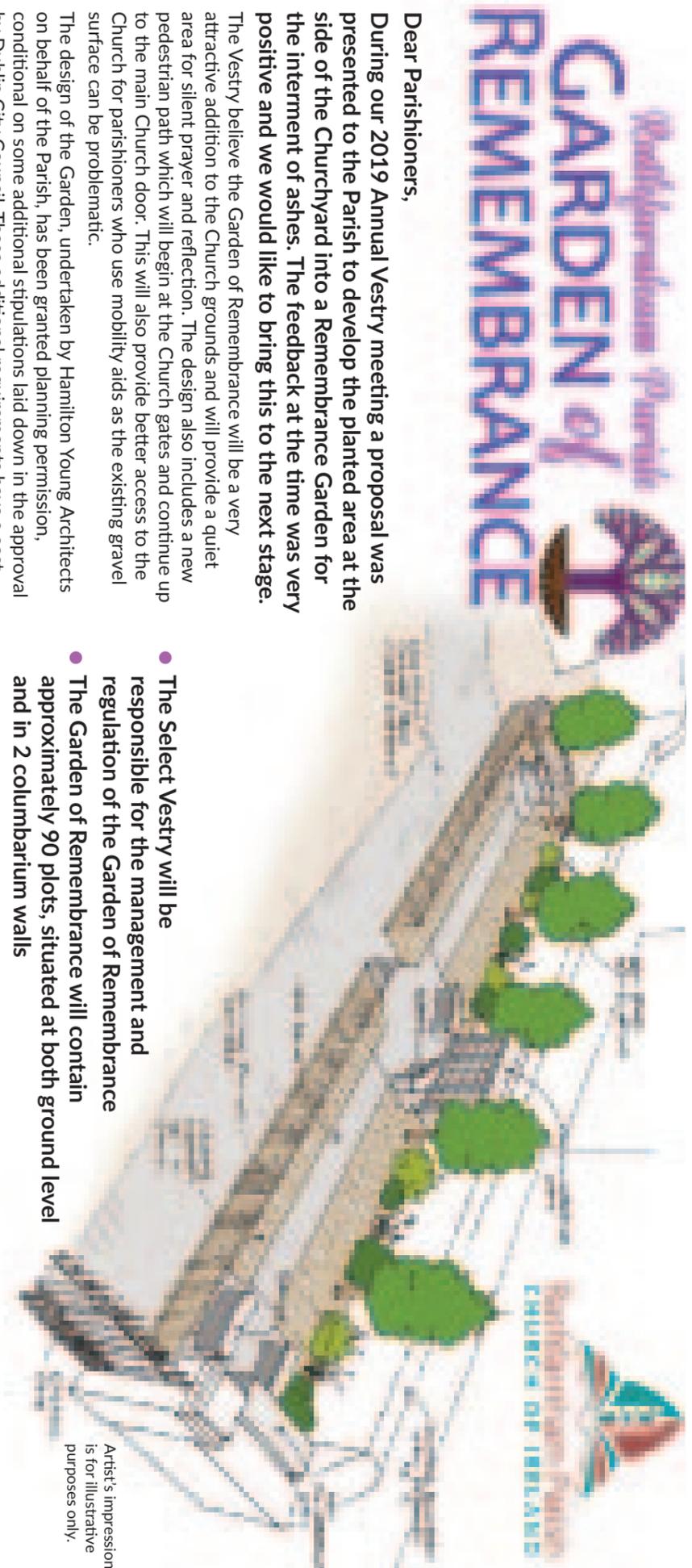


The design of the Garden, undertaken by Hamilton Young Architects on behalf of the Parish, has been granted planning permission, conditional on some additional stipulations laid down in the approval by Dublin City Council. These additional requirements have a cost associated with them which would need to be provided for prior to proceeding further with the proposal. However, it is not in the interest of the Parish to finance any further exploration or surveys until such time as we can fund the project.

The cost of the development will be in the region of €40,000 + VAT and it is hoped that this amount can be raised by subscriptions from parishioners in advance of construction.

- The Select Vestry will be responsible for the management and regulation of the Garden of Remembrance
- The Garden of Remembrance will contain approximately 90 plots, situated at both ground level and in 2 columbarium walls
- Each plot will accommodate 2* urns or other vessels, deemed appropriate by and supplied by the Select Vestry (*some plots may accommodate 3 urns, depending on construction)
- Interments will be restricted to parishioners of Rathfarnham Parish Church
- No specific plot may be reserved prior to requirement and the fee is **for access to the Garden of Remembrance**
- Fees will be comparable with other interment venues in the locality

Artist's impression is for illustrative purposes only.



Rathfarnham Parish
GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Dear Parishioners,

During our 2019 Annual Vestry meeting a proposal was presented to the Parish to develop the planted area at the side of the Churchyard into a Remembrance Garden for the interment of ashes. The feedback at the time was very positive and we would like to bring this to the next stage.

The Vestry believe the Garden of Remembrance will be a very attractive addition to the Church grounds and will provide a quiet area for silent prayer and reflection. The design also includes a new pedestrian path which will begin at the Church gates and continue up to the main Church door. This will also provide better access to the Church for parishioners who use mobility aids as the existing gravel surface can be problematic.

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