



News for You

March 2020

Dear Readers

Have you had a chance to notice how prolific birdsong around the church grounds is at the moment?

Even in the middle of the torrential rains and howling winds, the birdsong broke through. I was also struck by lively and amplified birdsong when we visited the now partly ruined 13th century Collegiate church of St Mary's in Gowran. The birds have made the ruins their home, especially as the ruins are inaccessible to people. And hearing their song reverberating off walls and buttresses gave a further insight into the phrase 'living stones.' The church is still very much alive. Nature is proclaiming the glory of God. When the Pharisees wanted Jesus to silence his disciples because they were sharing the good news of God's presence on earth, Jesus replied *"I tell you, if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."* (Luke 19:40). Every time our church doors open, we, the living stones and the church the literal stones have an opportunity to share our faith, our culture, our sacred space with seekers of information, of truth and of connection. Isn't that something to sing about??

Canon Adrienne



The Parish Social Committee is holding a Quiz Night on **Saturday March 21st** at 8pm in the War Memorial Hall and we'd love to see you there.

Tables of 4 are €40 (to include a bottle of wine and nibbles for every table) and further refreshment vouchers for wine, beer and soft drinks will be available on the night.

To book your table of 4, please contact **Orla on 086 679 9079** or **Joan on 086 822 9607**. We look forward to seeing you all on **Saturday March 21st** for a night of fun, spot prizes, raffle and refreshments.

March 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
Sunday 1st	10.30am Morning Prayer 2 with Crèche and Sunday Club 3.15-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) 7.30-9pm Youth Club, War Memorial Hall
Tuesday 3rd	6.45-7.55pm Good News Club, War Memorial Hall 8.15pm Select Vestry meeting, Parish Centre
Friday 6th	8pm World Day of Prayer Service
Saturday 7th	2.30-4pm WLTD0?, Parish Centre
Sunday 8th	10.30am Holy Communion with Crèche and Sunday Club 3.15-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) TBC pm Youth Club Go-Karting
Tuesday 10th	6.45-7.55pm Good News Club, War Memorial Hall
Sunday 15th	10.30am Morning Prayer 3 with Crèche NO Sunday Club 3.15-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) NO Youth Club
St Patrick's Day	10.30am Bi-lingual Holy Communion followed by refreshments NO Toddlerzone NO Good News Club
Wednesday 18th	8pm Whist in the War Memorial Hall
Saturday 21st	8pm Eden Group Quiz Night, War Memorial Hall
Sunday 22nd	10.30am Mothering Sunday Worshipping God Together 3.15-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers, War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) NO Youth Club
Tuesday 24th	6.45-7.55pm Good News Club, War Memorial Hall
Wednesday 25th	2.30pm Wednesday Club, the Parish Centre
Sunday 29th	10.30am Holy Communion with Crèche and Sunday Club 3.15-6pm Rathfarnham Youth Performers in the War Memorial Hall (exact times TBC week-to-week) 7.30-9pm Youth Club, War Memorial Hall
Tuesday 31st	6.45-7.55pm Good News Club, War Memorial Hall



Parish Newsround

Annual Easter Vestry

Our Annual Easter Vestry is scheduled for Sunday 26th April 2020 after the 10.30am Holy Communion service.

The register of vestrypersons was updated and presented to the select vestry on the 28th January with 259 registered vestrypersons. AG

Eco Congregation

Our hearts go out to the people of Australia following the devastating bush fires that have ravaged huge areas of the south-east with the consequent loss of human life, homes, farm animals and wildlife of all kinds.

While heavy rains have now extinguished most of the fires, there are now big questions for Australia and the world. How do we practise agriculture sustainably? How do we source energy? Can we appreciate and protect our native trees and forests that do so much to cool the land, absorb the rains and carbon dioxide, and shelter our treasured biodiversity? **Andrew Shorten**



Confirmation Candidates



We congratulate all who were confirmed on the 4th February, among them from Rathfarnham Parish:

Ava Bailey, Jack Boyd, Anna Buckley, Joshua Donovan, George James, Brendan Kelly, Laura Kennington, Harry Kyle, Katherine May, Alex O'Hare, Faye O'Hare, Freddie Robinson, Leo Shorten, Freya Sykes, Jake Tipping, and Deirbhle Woods. May they know the grace and favour of the Lord all the days of their lives. AG

Good News Club

We continue to employ a variety of teaching styles as we seek to accommodate many learning styles. This month we now take a closer look at Isaiah and the Gospel message. **Callum** and **Corinna** lead us on the 3rd March, **Peter** on 10th, the Rector on 24th and **Nicola** on the 31st which will also be an "out in the park" session. AG



Rathfarnham Parish National School

New Touch Screens

Thanks to the IT grant this year we've been able to upgrade to lovely new interactive screens in both of the infant classes. The school is involved in a digital learning pilot programme to develop eportfolios.

This we are doing in conjunction with our focus on Gaeilge for school improvement.

3rd and 4th Class Plays

3rd and 4th class will perform their play on **Friday 6th March**. Parents and friends of children in those classes are invited to attend.

Science Blast

5th and 6th classes will take part in the ESB Science Blast showcase on the **2nd March**. They're currently working very hard on their projects on Gender Bias in our school and Food.

END OF TERM

School will close for the Easter Holidays on **Friday 3rd April at 12 noon**.



Scouts

31st Rathfarnham is a very successful Scout troop which is over 100 years old and has more than 150 youth members. The troop is now looking for candidates who are interested in the voluntary role of **Group Leader** (our current Group Leader **John Sisson** is stepping down after several years of service). The Group Leader is primarily responsible for the management and co-ordination of the resources of 31st Rathfarnham Scout Group in accordance with the Policies of Scouting Ireland. The role is to manage people and resources to provide a quality youth programme experience to the young people in the Parish. If you would like to learn more about this role and would like to become involved with 31st Rathfarnham, please contact: **John Sisson - 087 8121216** or **David O'Connor - 087 6696330**.



Peter Pan Jr. - The Musical, presented by Rathfarnham Youth Performers in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund

Tickets are now available for our exciting musical production from the following:

- At rehearsals on Sunday afternoons
- From Ms Missen at The High School
- After the 10.30am Sunday service at Rathfarnham Parish Church
- At Reception in Rathfarnham Parish National School



Tickets are priced at **€20** for adults, children under 15 **€10**

There will be 2 performances on Saturday April 4th at the High School Rathgar - a **matinée at 2.30pm** and an **evening show at 7.30pm**.

For more information, please contact Gillian at gillperdue@gmail.com or 087 2782850.





Sunday Club

Well done to the Sunday Clubbers who did such a great job collecting in church at the ACE service in February - church wardens in the making perhaps? This month we are looking forward to a busy few weeks in Sunday Club as we learn about some of the miracles Jesus performed, and we'll combine that as usual with plenty of activities, including crafts, songs, prayers and play. Visiting children are more than welcome too.

Birthdays Wishes: Happy Birthday to **Donnacha** and **Flynn** who will be 5, and **Aidan** who will be 8 this month. We hope you all have a super day.

Linda and the team



Youth Club

We look forward to welcoming our recently confirmed candidates to Youth Club after mid-term.

Activities for March/April are **War Memorial Hall activities** and **Bingo night 1st March, 8th March Go-Karting, 29th March and 19th April War Memorial Hall activities**, with our last meeting for the year on **26th April** being the **Treasure Hunt and BBQ**.

NO Youth Club on **15th March, 22nd March, 5th April or 12th April** due to school holidays or Mothering Sunday.

Leaders: Ann-Marie, Avril, Gordon, Graham, Nicola, Peter, Ross, Sarah and the Rector

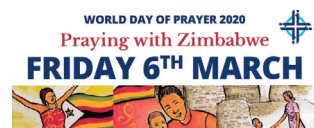


World Day of Prayer 2020

'Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action' is an international, ecumenical Christian initiative that has its roots in the self-help

and prayer groups set up by women in the United States after the devastation of the American Civil War.

Today the movement aims to bring together people of different races, cultures and Christian traditions in a common Day of Prayer written each year by the women of a different country. This year's service, **"Rise - take your mat and walk"** comes from Zimbabwe and will be hosted by Rathfarnham Parish on **Friday March 6th at 8pm**. The first service here in Ireland took place in 1934 and this year more than 200 services will be held across Ireland. The World Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March beginning in Tuvalu in the Pacific Ocean and moving around the world until the sun sets in Alaska. **Joan Forsdyke**



Tea & Coffee Rota

Tea and coffee on **March 22nd** after the 10.30am ACE Worshipping God Together Service will be kindly provided by **31st Rathfarnham Scouts**.

Toddlerzone

Another month gone and still winter with regards weather!! From our point of view things are still looking up. Still full capacity for non parishioners. Lent is upon us and then Easter follows. Obviously there will be **NO TODDLERZONE** on **Tuesday 17th March** while we honour St. Patrick. We hope to have craft in preparation for St. Patrick's Day and also for Easter. Hopefully we will have Easter Bonnet weather by then!! In the meantime, it's Chickenpox season again and we hope all our little ones get it over with quickly and easily and without too much scratching!!

March Pre-School Birthdays: Very many happy returns to our pre-school Parishioners with birthdays in March. **Donnacha P, Jessica C, Sebastian R and Maia O'B** will be 4, **Mia and Noah H.** 3 and **Amy O'C** 2. Have a great day when it comes everyone.

Heather 0879291990, Kim 0851473112 and Susan



Towards Sunday

Towards Sunday continues every Thursday in the Millennium Side Chapel at 8pm.

Our lectionary readings will be providing the focus for Lenten reflections and discussion. Everyone welcome. **AG**



Wednesday Club

Our next meeting will be held on the usual last Wednesday of the month, **26th March** at **2.30 pm** in the Parish Centre.

Peter Whyte, a regular contributor to the **"Irish Garden"** magazine, will talk about interesting aspects of gardening and answer some questions. Tea/coffee, bakes and chat afterwards! Looking forward to seeing our regular attenders and new members are welcome.

David Whyte at **087 7826054**.



Whist Club

There will be a **Whist Drive** in the War Memorial Hall on **Wednesday, 18th March, starting at 8pm**. All welcome.

Enquiries to **Rob and Beryl Dawson, 01 493 3203**.



Antiques Required

At the recent stall holders meeting it was proposed, as part of Bric-a-Brac, that we put out a special request for parishioners to donate antiques to the Parish for the Fete. These potentially more valuable items would **not** be sold at the Fête but put on display on the day and then taken to a reputable auction house afterwards for sale.

The proceeds of this separate sale would not be part of general Fête income but would be specifically earmarked for the Organ Restoration Fund.

We cannot take larger pieces until closer to the time as these will be brought straight to the auction rooms.

If you have any item which might be too good for the Bric-a-Brac stall but which you might like to donate for this worthy cause, please contact **Gordon Wright** by email:

gwright@masontec.ie to arrange collection.



Garden of Remembrance

Update: We have had a meeting with the Architect and the additional planning work is being organised and will be submitted to the council shortly. We will keep you updated on developments.



From the Registers

On the 28th January the funeral service for **Mr. Robert (Bobbie) Gilbert** was held and to his wife **Amy**, his son **Robert** and daughter **Vivian** and all the family we extend our heartfelt sympathy. Bobbie is interred in the Church of Michael and all Angels churchyard, Millicent, Clane.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to **Valerie Mathers** and all her family on the death of her much cherished sister **Lorna Van der Linden-Hunt** in Rotterdam on the 27th January 2020.

As our departed loved ones take their place "with all the company of heaven," may all who grieve know God's presence and strength.

We are planning to collect Easter eggs again this year for the children's charities supported by Rathfarnham Parish.



if you would like to contribute an egg, any shape or size, just it drop into Church, Sunday Club, or Good News Club at your convenience. Many thanks in advance.

Linda 087 6383844

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.

Dublin Outsiders. A History of the Mendicity Institution 1818-2018 by **Audrey Woods** with **Eimhin Walsh**. The Mendicity Institution (from the Latin for beggar) was founded in 1818 by a group of Dublin citizens who were deeply distressed by the way the city was failing so many of its people, men women and children, who were forced to beg on the streets in order to survive. It charts the evolution of their social mission over two hundred years. Today the Institution is a haven for many nationalities, offering them a place to go in the daytime, personal care and invaluable help and advice.

The Stars are Our Only Warmth - Alice Leahy, a Memoir with the journalist **Catherine Cleary**. This is the fascinating story of the life of Alice Leahy, her childhood, her early days in nursing and her tireless work as a fearless and outspoken advocate for the outsider in society, particularly the homeless. Her book is full of moving personal stories and it is a wonderful read.

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

This month's News For You is kindly sponsored by

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Material for the **April** issue of the Diocesan Review should be sent to the Rector by **12th March**. Please email your contributions to rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com and adriennegalligan@gmail.com

Parish Contacts

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Parish Secretary Andrew Shorten 01 490 5543

Tues/Wed/Thurs mornings 9.30am-12.30pm

Email: rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com

Hon Secretary Jonathan Mills 01 494 3605

Hon Treasurer George Wallace 01 493 1662

Stewardship Beryl Dawson 01 493 3203

Churchwardens (Rector's) Gerry Wilson 087 250 9824

(People's) John Deacon 087 126 5325

Glebewardens (Rector's) George James 087 988 8754

(People's) Leslie Mantle 01 493 2369, 087 2512939

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 Corrina O'Dwyer 087 666 3594

National School Principal Joyce Perdue 01 494 3470

Church Review Pam Shorten 01 493 7179

Scripture Readers' Rota Andrew Shorten 01 493 7179