



News for You

April 2021

Dear Parishioners

In Christian faith circles there has been much debate about when the church family was born.

Was it at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples to share the Good News worldwide? (Acts 2).

Or was it when Jesus turned to Peter and said "You are Peter and on this rock I will build my church." (Matthew 16 v 15-19). Or was it at the foot of the cross when Jesus turned to his mother and John and said "Woman, behold your son." And to the disciple, "Here is your mother." (John 19 v 25-27).

Whichever event you lean towards, let's celebrate that you belong to God's family by God's grace and Christ's resurrection. Hallelujah! & Happy Easter!

Canon Adrienne



Schedule of services for April 2021 (under current Government Level 5 restrictions)

We welcome you to join us for our Sunday service at 10.30am which is live-streamed, and the Thursday 10.30am Holy Communion which is available on Zoom via phone (01-6533897) or online (meeting id. number 4038917003).

Every Sunday

The 10.30am Sunday service in Church will also be available (after 24 hours) on the Parish YouTube channel at



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

HOLY WEEK

Monday, Tuesday Wednesday March 29th, 30th and 31st:

The church will be open for private prayer from **11am-1pm** and again from **7-8pm**.

Maundy Thursday April 1st:

The church will be open **after** the usual 10.30am Zoom Holy Communion service, from **11am-1pm**.

There will be a live-streamed service (no congregation) at **7.30pm** on Thursday evening.

Good Friday April 2nd:

There will be a live-streamed service (no congregation) from **12 noon-1pm**. The church will be open afterwards for private prayer from **1-3pm**.

Easter Sunday April 4th:

A very brief Son-Rise event of a few minutes will live-stream at 6am on the Parish YouTube channel. This will be available to view from 24 hours afterwards.

10.30am live-streamed family Holy Communion service.



Rathfarnham Parish Fête-by-Text



Saturday May 22nd, 11am-4pm

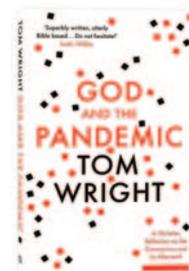
is the date for our Drive-Thru Fête-by-Text. You may collect your purchases between **11am and 4pm** from our volunteers in the church grounds.

Our next **News For You** will offer you the "Order By Text" contact details to enable you to place your orders. The Fête Committee are planning other fun events for Fête Week, including an online Pet Show with various entry categories. We look forward to your continued support. *The Fête Committee*

Have Your Say/Towards Sunday

Thank you to parishioners offering interpretations and insights on the Sunday readings

it's great to get started on engaging with scriptures in our current context, where previous interpretations no longer seem to fit. Feel free to text, phone or email me with your thoughts. One recurring question is "Why does God not intervene and eradicate the Covid 19 virus?" One answer offered by the former **Bishop of Durham, Prof. N.T. Wright** can be located at this podcast: <https://ntwrightpage.com/2020/07/16/theology-matters-theology-the-pandemic-ep-6-with-n-t-wright/> who suggests we ask "What new thing is God doing?" during this time of 'exile' from the church community. His booklet is titled 'God and the Pandemic'. AG



Parish News Round-up

Annual Easter Vestry

We propose Sunday 18th April at 11.30am as the date for the AEV in Rathfarnham Parish. This will be by Zoom as it is unlikely that we will be allowed to congregates in church or in the parish centre. If the House of Bishops decide to allow for AEVs to be postponed until September, as happened last year, we will then reschedule. Parishioners will be advised of any changes. A reminder that the phone-in number for Zoom is 01 653 3897, Meeting ID: 403 891 7003. AG

Badminton Club

The AGM for the 2020/2021 season is scheduled for 13th May at 8pm and most likely this will be held via Zoom as was the 2019/2020 one. Unfortunately no matches have been played since 12th March 2020 due to Covid. LF

Confirmation Classes

Classes concluded on Sunday 28th March with a short Palm Sunday liturgy, lead by the young people. We look forward to their further participation in leading the services in the future. We also look forward to getting a date for Confirmation from the Archbishop's office when the Government give the go-ahead for the resumption of church services. AG

Good News and Club Sunday Club

Good News Club and Sunday Club are collaborating on a video for Easter Sunday with 'Play it by Ear'. Not to be missed!!

We had an action-packed Zoom Sunday Club on March 14th. St Patrick played a big part, as you can see from the craft photos below, with Jesus and Zacchaeus centre stage. And we managed to squeeze in a game of bingo too, again on the St Patrick theme - needless to say, everyone was a winner! We hope Sunday Club mums enjoyed their little gift on Mothering Sunday. Thank you to the Sunday Club leaders who distributed a sweet treat and prayer card to parishioners. People said that they were a lovely surprise!



We also sang **Happy Birthday** to **Donnacha, Rebecca and Flynn**, who were all 6 years old in March.

This month we wish happy birthday to **Ethan** who will be 5 years old, and **Adam** and **Milo** who will both be 6. **Temí** will be 7, and **Robert** will be 8. Have a great day boys!

Our next Sunday Club will be on Good Friday, when we will explore the events from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday so until then, stay safe.

And a very **Happy Easter** from **Linda** and everyone in the Sunday Club team.



WLTD0?

Well our much anticipated first **Who Let The Dads Out?** session for 2021 did not disappoint!

Having put together and delivered our themed activity boxes to help everyone get the most from the session, we welcomed 18 children along with their 10 dads. It was time to get ready for our virtual St Patrick's festival making something to wave - a flag and a streamer followed by creative ways of using the rest of the craft items in the box to make something to decorate a window or room with a banner and something to wear - a leprechaun's hat.



This was followed by some time to relax and enjoy a story.

No WLTD0? session is complete without **Robert's Kahoot Quiz**. We had great craic with a few Olé, Olé Olés and singing a few songs including the St Patrick's Day Pokey!

After the on-screen celebrations, those who managed not to eat the ingredients, continued the fun with their kids making something to eat - Chocolate M&M Pretzel Shamrocks - yummy!!

We are always delighted to welcome new members so please do get in touch. **Our next WLTD0? on ZOOM is on Saturday 15th May @ 2.30pm**

Lynn Storey 087 6957061, Robert Hilliard 087 618 7058, David Campbell and Jonathan Ellis

Rathfarnham Parish National School

When the Taoiseach announced that we wouldn't be returning to school after the Christmas holidays we were very disappointed but we were ready! The children, teachers and parents moved the school online and we continued with teaching and learning as best we could throughout January and February. The children were very engaged and we are so proud of the progress everyone made during this time.

We had a virtual assembly each Friday with Canon Adrienne, the teachers shared the work the classes were doing, we celebrated birthdays, announced the Students of the Week and shared other good news. But no amount of Zoom lessons and meetings can make up for real school and we were delighted when Junior Infants to Rang 2 were able to return to school on March 1st. The first two weeks of the phased return to school were very successful and we eagerly looked forward to the remaining classes coming back on Monday 15th March.



This year on the 12th March, exactly a year on from when the Taoiseach announced that schools were to close, we had a celebration day in school. We had lots to be happy about: we have made it successfully through the year, all the children are back in school and we had Mothers' Day where we could celebrate 'mothering' in all its shapes and sizes. The children made masks where they wrote something that was good for them during the lockdown and they really enjoyed sharing their positive experiences.

On Monday 15th March as a treat and to welcome everyone back, the PTA kindly organised for an ice-cream van to visit the school at breaktime. We all did our best to use our Gaeilge during Seachtain na Gaeilge from 15th-19th March. Classes took part in lots of fun activities including the Shamrock challenge dance. School closed on 26th March for the Easter Holidays and will re-open on 12th April.

We hope that the summer term will be more 'normal' and we can have our usual summer activities that had to be cancelled last year. Stay safe everyone and Happy Easter!

Mrs. Perdue



Toddlerzone@Home

Last month we launched Toddlerzone @ Home on Zoom and we have been delighted with the response. We welcomed on screen some familiar and new faces for our interactive sessions - a welcome & chat, a story, singing and a craft/play activity idea. One of the joys of virtual Toddlerzone is that people can join us from near or far each Tuesday during term time, at 10am until 10.45am. No child is too young to join a session as the activities are aimed at the whole family and listening and learning takes place in many ways. Your child does not need to sit still and it is possible to eliminate noise by using the mute function. This is a great opportunity for children and their grown-ups to connect with others in the parish and community. We look forward to welcoming all those who can join us for our sessions on 13th, 20th & 27th April. For more information or to sign up contact either Lynn or Linda. Lynn 087 6957061, Linda 087 6383844, Heather, Susan & the rest of the team



Now online!



For 0-4 year olds

Meet other parents

Every Tuesday 10-10.45am
Come join Lynn, Linda, Heather & Susan for story, singing, & craft idea.

Contact Lynn 087 6957061 or Linda 087 6383844 for more information & joining details.



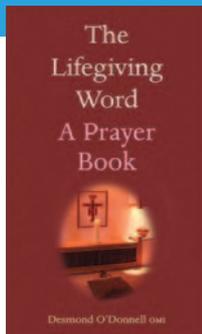
From The Registers

We are prayerfully looking forward to a couple of baptisms in May and June. With restrictions likely to be in place these may be off camera and after the 10.30am service with parishioners represented by our church warden on the day. Please pray for all parents as they seek to nurture their little ones in the Christian faith. Very helpful websites for resources are the Church of Ireland Children's Ministry <http://www.cm.ireland.anglican.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/Dublin-Glendalough-Kids-107738287592834/>

Library Notes

From The Lifegiving Word by Fr. Desmond O'Donnell a book of daily and seasonal reflections.

In Philippians, Paul tells us that knowledge of God is a gradual acceptance of the miracle that God has 'made me his own'. Our relationship with God involves a trusted letting go of our selves into God's welcoming arms. The Spirit of God will always need the space of an empty heart. We have to be empty of self to be filled with God. It is in this empty heart, this sacred space, that we will meet the God of love who will bring us beyond our deepest imaginings. Lofty words or human wisdom cannot lead you to the mystery of my being. 1 Cor 2:1. JF



Safeguarding Trust Ratified

At its meeting on the 4th March the Select Vestry ratified the **Harm Assessment and Safeguarding Statement** as required by Church House.



From a 'Worried Reader' re last month's cartoon!



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

Parish Contacts

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Email: music.rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com
Diocesan Reader Joan Forsdyke 087 947 5548
Sunday Service Streaming Oversight Joan Carty, Gerry Wilson
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) Rota of volunteers

Glebewardens (Rector's)	George James	087 988 8754
(People's)	Alan McMillan	087 260 1799
Stewardship	Beryl Dawson	01 493 3203
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
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