



News for You

February 2024

Dear Readers

Our Christmas 'figgy pudding' may be long consumed by now but Nathanael, seen by Jesus under the fig tree, (meaning he saw him in his place for studying the Law and the Prophets) urges us to develop another type of sweet tooth!

With Easter eggs gracing supermarket shelves already, may our Lenten sweet tooth, like Nathanael's, be rather satiated by God's living Word.

Adrienne





Parish Diary for February


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-mlKICJ-jA. 

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


Sunday 4th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 11th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Holy Communion with presentation of Certificates to our recent Confirmands 

Wednesday 14th 7.30pm Service for Ash Wednesday 

Sunday 18th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am All Ages Worship Service. Refreshments afterwards courtesy of the Tuesday Ladies Badminton. 

Sunday 25th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Holy Communion

MARCH Friday 1st 7.30pm Church of the Divine Word, Marlay Grange, World Day of Prayer service crafted by the women of Palestine. 

www.rathfarnham.dublin.anglican.org

Lenten Lead-in

We have purchased a group ticket for the Canterbury Press online event '*Companions on the Way: A retreat in preparation for Lent.*'

This will take place on **Saturday February 10th from 10am-1pm** and will be relayed in the church. If you are interested in attending, please let me know.



Our parish Lent series on Thursday evenings at 7pm in the Millennium Side Chapel responds to the General Synod 2023 motion on inclusivity as we study the book *Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black Spirituality for People of Faith* (the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2024) by **Selina Stone**. If you would like me to order you a copy of this book please let me know asap.

Christ Church Cathedral, our diocesan cathedral are hosting a Lent series entitled *Living Faith in the City*, an exploration of Paul's letter to the Romans, on Wednesdays during Lent at 7pm beginning on Ash Wednesday.

More information and registration from <https://forms.gle/iAs-RoqbNhht5ZUmd9>

AG



Confirmation

Confirmation 2024 took place in Zion Parish Church on Sunday January 28th at 10.30am.

(please see photograph inside).

Congratulations to all of our candidates who have taken on responsibility for their continuing Christian faith development - **Grace Campbell, Harry Cole, Katie Cole, Heidi Farrell, Hannah Glover, Daniel Howard, Chloe McCready, Ellie McEnroe, Laura Mooney, Harry Morrison, Rebecca Prior, Fergus Redmond, Cormac Shaw and Adam Whelan.**

We look forward to encouraging them to know God's promises and purposes for their lives.



Sunday Club

Sunday Club welcomes all children from pre-school (starting primary school in 2024) to 2nd class.

Feel free to pop in with your little one to try us out if you haven't been before. In February we will look at some of the amazing miracles Jesus performed, in a child-friendly, interactive, fun, and sometimes messy way, so something for everyone. If you would like your child to join us, just get in touch with me (Linda 087 638 3844) or drop in to one of our sessions to see what we're up to.

Sunday Club Dates for February:

Sunday 4th & 25th: 10.30am in the Parish Centre.



Good News Club

A 3rd class pupil asked me which of the two Christian festivals Christmas or Easter was the most important?

She concluded it was Easter because without Jesus' death and resurrection there was no point in Jesus coming as a baby!

She has set our theme for our Tuesday 6.45-7.45pm sessions in the Parish Centre as we journey towards Easter this term. AG



Toddlerzone

Toddlerzone meets most Tuesday mornings during school term in the Parish Centre from 10-11.15am.

Mums, dads, grannies, grandads, and minders with babies and toddlers are most welcome. So if you haven't been with us before, just drop Lynn (087 6957061) or Linda (087 6383844) a line to let us know you're coming.

February Dates:

Join us in the Parish Centre on Tuesday 6th as we celebrate Chinese New Year and the Year of the Dragon with lots of activities for children to explore.

On Tuesday 20th and 27th we'll be tip-toing through the woods with a clever little mouse to meet The Gruffalo (maybe!). Our Gruffalo theme is always very popular as children delight in some sensory and messy play activities - 'owl ice cream', 'roasted fox', 'scrambled snake' to name just a few!

NB: No Toddlerzone on Tuesday 13th due to half term.

Lynn, Linda, Helen and Susan.



Wednesday Club

Our February meeting will be held, as usual on the last Wednesday of the month, 28th, at 2.30 pm in the Parish Centre.

The speaker is tbc, but we will let you know by text. Have we your number? If not, please contact David. The usual Tea, Bakes and Chat afterwards! Looking forward to seeing regular and new attenders. Everyone is welcome.

David Whyte 087 782 6054.



Pop-In

Pop-In continues on Thursdays from 10.30-12 noon in the Parish Centre.

You are very welcome to join us for tea/coffee and biscuits - open to everyone!

Pictured below are Pop-In organisers Susan Christie and Heather Wilkinson, accepting a presentation from Barbara Fahy on behalf of all the Thursday chatters.



Safeguarding Trust

The parish Safeguarding Trust audit with the diocesan officer is scheduled for Tuesday 20th Feb at 10.30am.

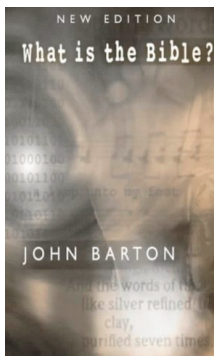
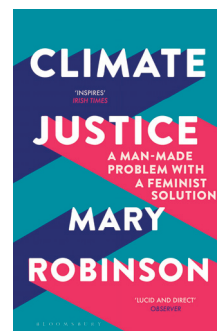
Parish groups who have not submitted their registration and attendance records for 2023 are kindly asked to give them to Kim in the Parish office for safe retention and auditing.



Parish Library

Mary Robinson was the UN Special Envoy on Climate Change and in her book *Climate Justice* she recounts the stories of many women living on the front line of the environmental crisis, their resilience, ingenuity and the impact of their individual action. Robinson writes: *'We need a different way of living together, and it has to start now.'*

It requires us to sow the seeds of human solidarity and develop a global spirit of compassion. The existential threat of climate change has brought home our interconnectedness, and our dependence on one another, as never before.'



As Christians we read the Bible for personal guidance and nourishment of our faith, but it can be a difficult book to read and understand. *What is the Bible?* by John Barton is an ideal book for anyone seeking advice on how to read the Bible intelligently, whether approaching it for the first time or returning to it in later life. It describes how different parts of scripture came to be written; it helps readers explore and appreciate the different types of literature

within the Bible and it provides insight into various ways in which scripture is used and misused today.

The library is in the Millennium Side Chapel, and details regarding borrowing books are above the bookshelf. JF



The Way We Move

A Global Playground

Travelling around the world has never been more affordable and within easy reach of most people living in first world countries. When we travel for work or for leisure, most of us consider the travelling time and costs, but tend not to consider the environmental costs through air pollution and carbon emissions.



Globally, transportation accounts for between 15-20% of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG's). Over the coming decades, transportation will likely be a major driving force in the increased demand for electrical energy.

Sustainable transport isn't only about switching our daily commute to work. It is about safe infrastructure, public transport availability and affordability, new business models, alternative and more sustainable vehicles as well as improving air quality and health.

Active Travel

The best form of travel from both an environmental and health point of view is Active Travel. Active Travel is making a journey by Walking, Cycling or similar sustainable modes. A recent long term health study done in the Dublin metropolitan area found that walking and cycling prevents over 2,700 serious long term health conditions and 547 deaths annually. It helps to improve air quality and vastly reduce GHG emissions. Investment in Ireland's cycling and walking infrastructure has reached record levels and while there is still some way to go, safe active travel routes are becoming more accessible. Endeavour to walk or cycle on short journeys to improve your health, wellbeing and the air quality in your neighbourhood.

Public Transport

It is amazing to think that Dublin once had an enviable public transport system. Up to the 1940's you could get a tram from Rathfarnham all the way to Drumcondra. The shift in policy during the 1940's and beyond which prioritised private transport and, to an extent busses, led to infrastructure designs that were not friendly to any other mode of transport. We are now looking to reverse that trend, which is no easy task given the challenges of redesigning urban spaces. However, new bus routes and light rail systems are coming



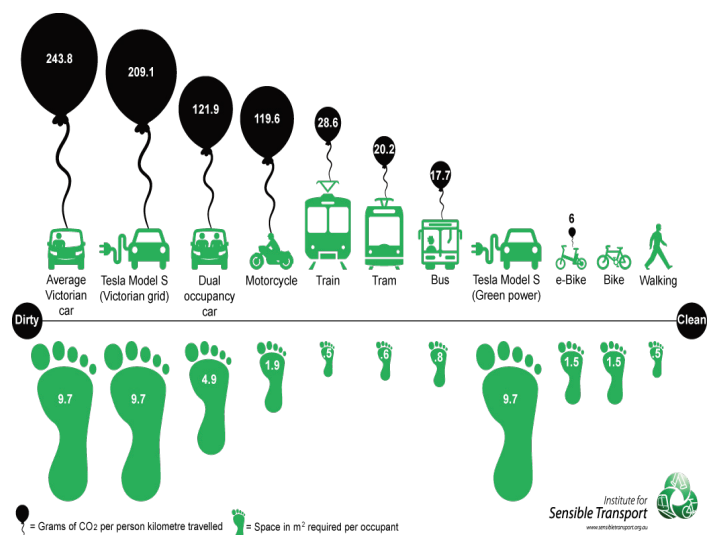
on stream which offer a more efficient and accessible service. But how effective and efficient are busses and trains from an environmental point of view? The images (below, left) can explain better than words how efficient these modes of transport are compared to private transport.

Aviation

The commercial aviation industry accounts for approximately 2-3% of global GHG's, which is less than the impact of the GHG emissions from domestic food waste (see the food waste article in the November newsletter). However, the global warming impact is far greater than this statistic would suggest as other gases and particulates planes emit at high altitudes add to the warming effect. While the aviation industry is working to improve fuel efficiency and sustainability, growth in passenger numbers is exceeding the gains in efficiency. Here are six simple steps you can use to help reduce the environmental impact of flying:

1. Avoid if Unnecessary! Can that business meeting be done online? Is there a sail rail option? The first and best option is always to avoid the action.
2. Flying Economy Class instead of business class improves efficiency.
3. Take non-stop flights where possible to avoid high emissions during take-off and landing.
4. Take daytime flights as contrails reflect heat rather than trap it during the day.
5. Choose airline carefully as some airlines use more fuel-efficient aircraft.
6. Offset your flights. Often airlines will offer the opportunity to pay a little extra to offset your carbon emissions.

Reducing our travel emissions can have huge benefits, particularly in an urban setting. By reducing car journeys, we can breathe cleaner, healthier air, reclaim space in our neighbourhoods, improve mental health and live less stressful lives all while helping the environment. There are many occasions where a car journey is necessary, but if we could each eliminate an initial one journey per week, think of the overall impact.



You can calculate your travel carbon footprint at this website: www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx.

You may be surprised at the results!

Next time I will examine the things we buy, the culture of consumerism and how we can reduce unnecessary purchasing.

Mark Lynch is a Green Party Councillor representing Rathfarnham/Templeogue in South Dublin County Council.



Parish Picture Gallery





Parish Picture Gallery



From The Registers

Baptisms

It gave us great joy to welcome into God's family twin brothers **Scott Michael Andrew** and **Alex Brendan Bruno Jensen** on 3rd December. Their parents are **Kyra and Jason**, Godparents **Robert, Aoife, Nathan, Adam and Kerrie**. May Scott and Alex learn to grow in their trust and understanding of God and his love for them.



We were delighted to baptise **Beau Robyn O'Keeffe** on the 28th December when all her Godparents and family from many parts of the world were able to attend in person. Beau's parents are **Shirley and Diarmuid**, Godparents **Julia, Markus and Nuala**. May Beau's wonder at the world lead her to find our wonderful God.

Interment

On January 2nd we gathered with **Sam Mahon** and his sons **Brian** and **Andrew** and many family members for **Margaret's** interment in the Garden of Remembrance. Knowing how appreciated Margaret is by many in and beyond this parish for her many endeavours indicates in part the huge loss she is to Sam and her family. May they be enveloped by God's loving presence in their grief.

This issue of NFY is sponsored by



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On the 14th January both **Margot Anne** and **Isla Jane Houghton** were baptised much to their delight and ours. Their parents are **Sheila and Ossie**, Godparents **Kevin and Hazel; Clive and Siobhán**. May family and friends support Margot and Isla as they continue to learn about God's great love for them at Sunday Club and at home.

Parish Contacts

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

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 Email: music.rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com

Diocesan Reader Joan Forsdyke 087 947 5548

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

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

Hon Secretary Leslie Deacon 087 815 8221

Hon Treasurer Jonathan Mills 01 494 3605

Churchwardens (Rector's) George Kennington 086 836 6637
 (People's) Andrew Shorten 087 774 8208

Glebewardens (Rector's) George James 087 988 8754
 (People's) Alan McMillan 087 260 1799

Stewardship Beryl Dawson 01 493 3203

Toddlerzone Lynn Storey 087 695 7061

Sunday Club Linda O'Connor 087 638 3844

Good News Club Corinna O'Dwyer 087 666 3594

National School Principal Joyce Perdue 01 494 3470

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