



News for You

April 2026

Dear Parishioners

Easter, we are reminded, is not about spectacle but relationship.

Imagine the overwhelming love of Jesus for you and me and the lengths he went to, to draw you and me into that loving and eternal relationship with God. Phenomenal, isn't it? So, borrowing a phrase from our Orthodox friends, can I then wish you a very **Bright Easter**.

Adrienne

Confirmation 2026

We congratulate all our candidates on deciding to take responsibility for their faith development and who stood before the Archbishop on 22nd March 2026 to declare their Christian faith:

Freddie Beardsley Murphy, Shane Campbell, Bobby Fitzpatrick, Noah Fitzpatrick, Sophia Galvin, Sophia Howard, Jessie James, Mae Masterson, Conor Mooney, Jake O'Byrne, Jessica O'Connor, Sarah Jane Redmond, Rory Shaw and Liam Shirley. May they know the joy and strength of the Lord as they grow in understanding.

A sincere Thank You to Zion Parish and Rev. David White who hosted the Rural Deanery confirmation service this year.



Parish Diary for April

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-mIKICJ-JA. 

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

Each Sunday 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Monday - Wednesday 7.30pm Compline/Late Evening Office
Thursday April 2nd 7.30pm a service of Ante Communion

Good Friday 9am Ecumenical Walk of Witness leaving from the Church of the Annunciation
12 noon - 3pm Good Friday Reflections

Easter Saturday 10am - 12 noon Church decorating

Sunday 5th Easter Day 6.30am SonRise Service Montpelier Hill
8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Family Service with Holy Baptism 

Sunday 12th 8am Holy Communion 1
10.30am Holy Communion followed by the **Annual Easter Vestry**

PLEASE NOTE NO 12 noon service today

Sunday 19th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Worshipping God Together followed by tea/coffee 

Sunday 26th 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1
10.30am Holy Communion 2

www.rathfarnhamparishcoi.org



A Call for Volunteers To Help Out

Saturday 16th May 11-2.30pm in the High School, Rathgar.

We are still looking for volunteers to lighten the load so if you can help in any way, please let the clergy or stall holders know or email the parish office.

Thank you in advance - The Fête Committee

Fête Country Pantry

Once again a call for our loyal jam-makers and for new jam-makers to make delicious fruit jams (e.g. raspberry, loganberry, blackberry, strawberry, blackcurrant, red currant, rhubarb, plum), marmalade, chutneys and lemon or lime curd for the Country Pantry stall in the fete. If you haven't made jam before why not give it a go. Whether you make a few pots or many, your effort is much appreciated.

If you need jam-jars they are available from Linda O'Connor (087 638 3844) and Joan Forsdyke (087 947 5548).

Calling All Gardeners!

Could you divide some perennials and donate them to the plant stall?

Please label them and if you don't know the name just say if it's indoor or outdoor and the colour of the flower.

The plant stall also welcomes donations of plants, potted flowers, shrubs, vegetables, herbs and garden fare. Are you are sowing seeds/repotting plants this April? If you have excess, all donations will be received in the Parish Centre the week of May 11th up to the fete on 16th May.

Ladybirds

Rathfarnham Ladybirds celebrated Valentine's Day alongside 100 years of World Thinking Day.



The Ladybirds learned that there are over 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world, all thinking of one another and celebrating global friendship on February 22nd.

For our Valentine's craft, the girls made a special 'love heart' to themselves, sharing something they love about who they are. It was a lovely way to celebrate kindness, confidence, and self-love.

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day we completed a Trail Hunt in Bushy Park. The girls earned a Shamrock pin and even found chocolate coins under a rainbow!

Ladybirds is for girls in junior infants to first class, we have a small number of spaces left. Please contact Sara for more information or to register for a space on 083-0132656

We are so proud of all our Ladybirds.



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.

Linda 087 6383844



Good News Club

Good News Club returns after Easter on 14th April at 6.45-7.45 in the War Memorial Hall.

We will also be meeting on 21st and 28th April learning more about St. Paul's 3rd mission.



Wednesday Club

Our next Wednesday Club will meet on 29th April, at 2.30 pm, in our Parish Centre.

Our speaker will be **Canon Horace McKinley** who will speak on 'Exploding Lava' including the effect of volcanoes on our lives.

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

PLEASE NOTE: For our Annual Outing in May, we intend to go to Hillsborough Castle and Gardens in Co. Down. Please put your name on the list. **David Whyte, 087 7826054.**



Lent 'Scriptures in Art' Series

Scriptures in Art generated loads of conversation and insights from everyone who participated which has added to all of our understanding of heretofore unexplored aspects of Jesus' life and ministry. Thank you to everyone for the richness of your input.

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.



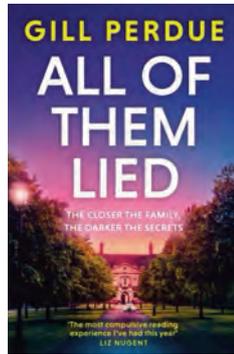
Our first Pop-In Book Club in March, discussing Kristin Hannah's *Night Road*, was a great success with 18 members joining us for tea/coffee and book chat.

Our last Pop-In Book Club before the Summer will be on **Thursday May 21st** when we will be hosting local writer **Gill Perdue** who will

read from her forthcoming book *All Of Them Lied* (to be published in June and our recommended Summer read for September's Pop-In Book Club).

On Thursday March 26th we were delighted to celebrate the 99th birthday of long-term member **Jean Davis**. Many Happy Returns, Jean!

May Pop-In Book Club: Thursday 21st at 11am in the Parish Centre.



Pop-In are always pleased to support the Annual **Alzheimer's Tea Day** appeal which this year will be on **Thursday May 7th**.

We'd love to see you in the Parish Centre from 11am for tea/coffee, chats and always a great selection of extra cakes and bakes on the day.



There will be NO POP-IN on Thursday May 14th due to Fête sorting in the Parish Centre. OMacW



Celebrating Jean's 99th birthday.

Safety

New fire exit lights have been installed in the church and Parish Centre; an intercom has been installed in the Parish Centre and work continues to ensure we comply with health and safety guidelines.



Mr Leonard receiving the 50th anniversary of Boards of Management commemorative plaque from Archbishop Jackson

Organ Recital

International Women's Day celebrations were enhanced by the tremendously varied programme of works by international composers expertly delivered by **Dr. Patrice Keegan** and **Dr. Carole O'Connor** on our now fully refurbished organ which sounded superb! After the delights of music, refreshments were served in the Parish Centre to a lively chat melody.



Eggcellent Result!

As usual, Rathfarnham parishioners generously answered our call for **Easter Egg donations**. Huge thanks to everyone and thanks also for the donations of towels, clothes, etc for the recent flood appeal. Your kindness is very much appreciated. CS-F

Parish Office

Parishioners are now getting used to the new phone number for the parish office (01 490 4098) and its new location in the Parish Centre. Our parish secretary, Kim is there Mon-Fri 9.30am-12.30pm. The Rectory and Rectory office number stays the same, 01-4905543.



Thank you to the anonymous parishioner who approached Penneys for a donation for the family affected by the floods recently. Penneys donated €100 in vouchers which Catherine passed on, along with the donations of clothes given by parishioners. Thank You everyone!

FUNDRAISER IN AID OF CAMBODIA SCHOOL APPEAL

QUIZ Night

Date: Thursday 30th April

Time: 7.30pm (sharp)

Venue: CYM, Terenure

Teams: Tables of 4, €40 per table

There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams, plus a raffle on the night with a hamper as the star prize, and spot prizes.



All are welcome - bring a team or join one on the night for a fun evening in aid of a very worthwhile cause.



To book a table - please contact Joan Carty on 086 822 9607

CAMBODIA SCHOOL APPEAL

This summer I will be travelling to Cambodia for five weeks as an unpaid volunteer, teaching English to young children in some of the poorest rural villages outside Siem Reap.

I'm part of a team of 16 UCD Overseas Volunteers working with four local schools that provide free education to around 1,250 children and adolescents:

- New Hope of Children
- The Volunteer Development Children's Association
- KTC - Knowledge Training Centre
- ABCs and Rice (which also provides food for the children and their families to encourage school attendance)

Cambodia is still recovering from over three decades of war and the horrors of the Khmer Rouge regime, during which an estimated 1.7 million people died.

Today, poverty, child malnutrition, youth unemployment and human trafficking remain serious problems. These schools, and the education they provide, are a vital lifeline for their communities.

I am covering my own flights and personal expenses, but as a group we need to raise €30,000 to support the work of these four schools. To help reach this target, I'm organising a Quiz Night (see details, left) and I'd be very grateful for your support.

If you're unable to attend the quiz but would still like to help, any donation, no matter how small, would be hugely appreciated.

In September I'll share photos and give a short talk about the schools and my experience in Cambodia, so you can see directly how your donation has made a difference.

Many thanks in advance for any help you can give, Leo Shorten.



From the Registers

Baptism

Congratulations to **Mae Masterson** who made the decision to be baptised into the Christian faith and family on 6th March 2026. We pray that Mae knows the Holy Spirit guiding her all the days of her life.

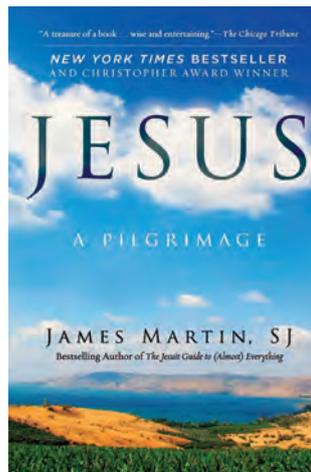
Funeral

We extend our sincere sympathy to **Alison Caulwell** and family **Joanna, Sally, Conor, Laura** and **Eva** on the recent unexpected death of Alison's beloved husband and their much cherished father **Peter** on 21st Feb 2026. Peter's funeral service was held in Rathfarnham Parish Church on 28th Feb followed by a service in Mt Jerome crematorium. The service was conducted by **Rev. Cathy Hallisey** of Powerscourt and Kilbride parishes.

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.

Jesus a Pilgrimage by **James Martin SJ** is a very readable account of Father Martin's pilgrimage to the Holy Land with his friend George. He asks the question, 'Who is Jesus'. He combines his emotional reaction to seeing the places where Jesus lived and died with Scripture readings and deep insights into the meaning of Jesus's life and teaching.



Father Martin writes: *'God meets us where we are. God comes to us in ways that we can appreciate and understand, even if only partially or incompletely. Jesus teaches us that: Humility is the gateway to faith. Without it, we rely simply on our own efforts, without recognising our dependence on God. Without it we rely simply on our own reason, without opening ourselves up to the possibility of the miraculous. Without it, we cannot fully enter the world that God has in store for us ... God came helplessly (as a baby) into the world to help us'.*

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

This issue of NFY is sponsored by



World Day of Prayer participants with service leader Joan Forsdyke

Parish Contacts

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

Curate Assistant: Revd Mike Buchanan. 085 262 0635
Email: revmikebuchanan@gmail.com

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

Diocesan Readers Joan Forsdyke, Philip Middleton

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

Parish Secretary Kim Bardon 01 490 4098
Monday - Friday mornings 9.30am-12.30pm
The Parish Centre, Church of Ireland Parish of Rathfarnham, Main Street, Rathfarnham Village, Dublin D14 TN93.
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

News For You & Website Joan Carty rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com