



Dear Parishioners

In the midst of the heartfelt 'Welcome Back' to church there is now the inevitable stock taking of the impact of the pandemic on how we experience the Church in all its expressions from the mystical, worldwide visible, denominationally ordered, diocesan governed, local parish imbibed and individually lived and all God breathed into existence.

One model of assessment at local and individual levels is the triple A one: **Amend, Adopt, Abandon**. Maybe this is a model you have been using in your own life this past year as restrictions and priorities jostled with one another for your attention. May we prayerfully make wise choices as we discern God's will for our parish and our lives going forward.

Canon Adrienne

Schedule of services for June 2021 (with attendance subject to continuing restrictions)

Every Sunday

Our 8am, 10.30am and 12 noon Sunday services are back! As well as in-person in Church, the 10.30am will continue to be live-streamed every Sunday will also be available (after 24 hours) on the Parish YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/channel/UCso-NPjtC4skX-mIKICJ-JA.

In-person **Thursday morning 10.30am Holy Communion** is also now possible again and we will continue to connect through Zoom via phone (01-6533897) or online (meeting id. number 4038917003).

For the moment, capacity in the Church will be 39 people, with an additional 15 in the Parish Centre and the Millennium Side Chapel.

You can access our YouTube channel and also keep up-to-date with Parish news and events on our new website:

www.rathfarnham.dublin.anglican.org



Drive-Through Fête Saturday May 22nd



Fête by Text on Saturday 22nd May followed 3 days of torrential rain so we were delighted and relieved to have a bright, dry day. The good weather meant that we had a steady stream of cars arriving all day from 10am to 4 pm, with parishioners and friends driving through the church grounds, and our army of helpers ferrying goods to their cars.

The total raised so far by our Virtual Fête 2021 is over **€9,000**, to include generous anonymous donations. The ifundraise page set up by **Hon Treasurer Jonathan Mills** was also a great success, with parishioners enjoying the ease with which the new technology made payments simple.

We would like to thank all those who contributed delicious bakes, cakes, jams and preserves, tarts, biscuits, a super selection of plants, flowers, shrubs and garden items (to include a lawn mower!) and Pandemic Reads for the book sale, joined the Motivation for May challenge and entered their pets into the Virtual Pet Show. Thanks to all those who helped out with the arrangements and to those who spent their entire day at the Fête, running the plant stall, the surplus Pandemic Reads book stall and the Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar competition (nearest guess winner to be announced).



As always we are afraid of leaving people out but thank you to all the Fête Committee (**Canon Adrienne, Margaret Berney, Pat Fowler, George James, Carolyn McQueston, Jonathan Mills, Linda O'Connor, Ross Shorten and Lynn Storey**) for their huge efforts, the Fête-in-a-Bag team from Who Let the Dads Out? (**Pat Fowler, Robert Hilliard, Linda O'Connor and Lynn Storey**), and the Eden Group (**Orla MacWilliam, Robert O'Connor, Tom Shaw, Lynn Storey, Gerry Wilson, Gordon Wright and Joan Carty**) who organised the still ongoing Motivation for May. Thanks to **Nicola Marples** and the team of planters and gardeners for all their hard work and their wise planting advice to buyers on the day, and to **Kate Shaw, Joan Forsdyke** and the team of generous and talented bakers and makers, without whose work the success of the Fête would not be possible. A special thanks to **Carolyn McQueston** for giving so much of her time in arranging the Pandemic Reads and the Virtual Pet Show.

We would also like to thank our generous sponsors, The King of Comedy Magic, **Reuben the Entertainer** (ZOOM 'Fête in a Bag'), **Haven Greene's Pharmacy** and **Andrew Buckley's TotalHealth Pharmacy**.

Parish News Round-up

Sunday Club

We had a fun-packed Zoom on May 16th where we continued to learn about Jesus' final days with his disciples before ascending to heaven.

We also began preparations for our Pentecost craft, as you can see from the Zoom screenshot, which we plan to decorate church with on Pentecost Sunday. Hopefully church will look fabulous on its' birthday, with all that extra colour! Our final Sunday Club of the season is on **May 30th**. In the meantime, we hope and pray for a healthy and successful re-opening of our church and the economy in general.

Happy Birthday to **Oscar** and **Philippa**, who share the same birthday, and will both be 5 years old on June 18th. We hope you have a fantastic day!

Sunday Club dates on Zoom:

May 30th (final meeting of this season).

Linda and everyone in the Sunday Club team.



Crèche

We have decided that, even though the Church reopened in May, it would be best for the Crèche to stay closed.

We hope that in September we will be able to re-open and welcome you all to join us once again. We may not be able to get together yet, but remember, we are still here if you need us. During the coming months, in the background, the Leaders of all the children's groups will be working on new and exciting things for the new Term in September. As we are not sure what each month will bring, due to restrictions etc, lets remind ourselves to find happiness and hope in every small thing that comes our way.

Stay Safe everyone and let us know if you need anything at all. **Kim Bardon 085 1473112, Susan and Heather 087 929 1990.**



Eco Congregation

It is said that a quarter of Ireland's total carbon dioxide emissions originate from the energy we use in our homes.

A number of Rathfarnham parishioners have taken the initiative to improve their energy efficiency by measures such as improved attic insulation, wall and underfloor insulation, and fixing the sources of draughts.

Before you sell or rent out a house, you must employ a Building Energy Rating (BER) assessor to do a survey and rate the house on a scale from A1 (best) to G (worst). Similarly, the BER is part of the process when you apply for a grant from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) under the Better Energy Homes programme. A home with a high rating is likely to increase the value of your home.

SEAI grants are available for insulation, solar panels (for either water heating or electricity), heat pump systems, heating controls, the BER, as well as bonuses for extra measures.

The photo shows eight photovoltaic (PV) panels installed on a south-facing roof. The work was carried out by an approved installer who also managed the grant application.

The electricity generated in this example is used during daylight to power household appliances, showers, immersion water heating, and can potentially be used to recharge an electric car. It saved the householders 1,260 kilowatt hours (kWh) in the first year of operation, worth €264. The surplus electricity on sunny days is fed into the national grid, monitored by a smart meter. At present this attracts an annual "interim payment" of €150, but the Government has announced that a "fair price" per kWh will be introduced from July 2021. The solar panel system cost €8,600 and SEAI grants of €1,400 were obtained. Other energy savings to the existing gas condensing boiler system were made by improved insulation and pipework.

So you can have a mini power plant on your own roof! Simple and relatively inexpensive steps like lagging your hot water tank and draught proofing a problem door can save a lot of energy. Although investment is required, making your home cosy and affordable to heat is surely desirable - for comfort, saving money long-term, and saving the planet.

Andrew Shorten



Ladybirds

Unfortunately we have had to close the Ladybird unit. It was very hard to get leaders and helpers to keep the unit up and running. Thank you to all the leaders and helpers that have helped out over the years. A massive thank you to all the Ladybirds that have passed through our doors: it was a pleasure to get to know all of you. Stay safe.

Suzanne Morgan Unit Leader Rathfarnham Ladybirds.

Rathfarnham Parish National School

Creative Schools Week (10th-14th May) supported by the Arts Council, on the theme of Brave New World, encouraged the pupils to display an enormous variety of talent: video animations and games were created; art portfolios, dance and music compositions were performed; sports and culinary skills were exhibited and talent shows were staged. Well done everyone!

Active Week (7th-11th June). Since classes are not able to go on school tours this term we have arranged to use the pitch in Sancta Maria and plan to arrange a variety of fun activities throughout the week. We will be holding the senior sports on **Friday 11th June** on the astro-turf pitch at Sancta Maria. The junior sports will be held in school.

The children in our school have been developing their mathematical skills online with Mathletics, so much so that on World Maths Day 6th class were the number one class in

Fête In A Bag

A huge thank you to Who Let the Dads Out for making their 'Fete-in-a-Bag' session for May be part of the Virtual Fete.

Fete in a Bag bags (all 90 of them!) were filled with lots of Fête-style activities and surprises. - a lucky dip and 3 craft kits in every bag, and some with a Golden Ticket entitling the bearer to a prize. The excitement had been building as families collected their bags and were encouraged not to take a sneak peek! It was wonderful to see so many families and children join us for the Zoom on a sunny Saturday afternoon and, though we weren't weather dependent it certainly helped to get us into Fête mood. We were delighted to have **Reuben the Entertainer** Zoom in and bring his high-energy, quirky comedy, and a little magic thrown in too! From there, thanks to **Alana Storey**, we went to breakout rooms, where everyone experienced something of a few of the stalls from the Fête using the craft kits - **Linda O'Connor**, along with her magical garden gnomes, gave some great gardening tips while everyone planted sunflowers,

Competition Winners

Congratulations to **Rosie Gillis**, winner of €50 in the *Clergy Quiz* and *Rathfarnham Riddles Crossword* (answers available on the website) - well done, Rosie!

Myles O'Keefe was the winner of the *Guess The Number Of Sweets In The Jar* and his prize was - a large jar of sweets! Well done, Myles.

You can see the *Virtual Pet Show winners* on the Fête page of our Parish website, where you'll find a link to **Carolyn McQuestion's** slideshows for the various categories.

Thank you to everyone who entered our various competitions - we had a great response and we really appreciate all your support.



Ireland with **James Matthews** being the number one pupil! Well done everyone and keep up the great work!

Joyce Perdue, Principal

Toddlerzone @ Home

Toddlerzone @ Home continues on Zoom each Tuesday at 10am -10.45am. It's been great to welcome some new faces while it's been a joy to watch and hear how the little ones have become familiar and anticipate the rhythm and pattern of the sessions of welcome, warm up, story, craft idea /play activity or game, singing and some chat. The sheer thought of a game of 'I spy' or 'Peek-a-Boo' on screen would have been beyond our imagination 18 months ago! Our June dates are as follows **June 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd** and we couldn't finish the year out without our annual Teddy Bear Picnic, again this year 'In A Bag'.

WLTD0?

Our last session before the summer break will be on Saturday 20th June. As restrictions ease and organised outdoor gatherings are permitted, albeit limited numbers, we are exploring the possibility of an outdoor celebration of dads, granddads, male carers and father figures and of course their little ones! Details of the session are yet to be confirmed but we'll make sure to connect with all those who have joined our Zoom sessions prior to the date.

Sam Wright brought some fun of the fete games making pompom poppers while **Megan Valentine** brought some inspiration from the sweet and cake stalls making funny faces! Before finishing we gathered together for 'Guess the number of Sweets In the Jar', thanks to the **Fowler Family** and we popped our pompom poppers and blew bubbles from our Lucky Dip bags in celebration of a great afternoon of fete-ish fun! A huge thank you to **Lynn, Linda, Sam, Megan, Alana**, and our sponsors - **Reuben the Entertainer, Haven Greene's Pharmacy** and **Andrew Buckley's TotalHealth Pharmacy**. Thanks to all those who helped behind the scenes, and of course to everyone who joined us.



