

Marino Parish Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Marino Autumn/Christmas issue NO.3 Vol.22



Out of the fire

In this Christmas edition of the newsletter there was a strong temptation to reprint last years editorial since it still reflects the reality of whats happening. The war in Ukraines rumbles on though with some signs of stopping with an uneasy and unjust peace likely. Similarly in Israel and Gaza a similar halt may survive. Lebanon that former jewel of the Mediterranean is once again suffering the overflow of a war not of its making, and the renewed war

in Syria will make all these problems worse.

However at this time of year we always want to celebrate the hope which the birth of the Christ child brings. It is in celebrating again the joy of His coming that we revive the hope that He has given to the world.

It is a time when we remember that this God we worship once had a physical presence on earth through His son Jesus.

These past few years have seen our world perspective changed radically. War and the aftermath of the pandemic has brought a huge touch of reality to every nation, and the fine balance of both the political world and the natural have been gravely upset. Countries begin to turn in on themselves and political systems are about survival. The concept of a common humanity is being eroded.

Nature is also in revolt with fire, flood, earthquakes, and famine. It is as if the Earth is calling a halt to our neglect of climate and of our willingness to exploit its bounty. Many people are pessimistic about the future believing in the 'end time'.

And yet the very birth of Jesus and his life and death on the Cross was the start of the end time. It is in following Christ that we as individuals, or in a cataclysmic world will reach the end time not of our choosing but Gods.

As Saint Paul exhorted the Corinthians, waiting is not an option. We must pray and work for justice and truth until we are called.

Ditrich Bonhoeffer reminds us that "not to act is to act". Not to participate to create a better world is an act of selfishness, to ignore hunger, to deny climate change are in themselves acts not in accordance with what Christ, born as a child in the manger has taught us.

Our hope and prayer this Christmas as we face into a new political reality should be that the peace of Christ will settle on the world and that we will learn to see the image of God in our fellow human beings.

Primo Levi, the Jewish writer and philosopher who suffered the horrors of Auschwitz has written

"Each of us bears the imprint of a friend met along the way; In each the trace of each.

Our graphic shows the restored Cathedral of Notre Dame

Prayer for peace in the Holy Land:

Oh, Loving Father, we turn to You in our hour of need, and ask You to bring Your peace and understanding to this most Holy, and most troubled, of lands.

Protect your faithful children, free them from discrimination and violence, and bring about an atmosphere of harmony and justice for all who dwell in these lands. In Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. Let there be peace.

In Nazareth, where Jesus spent His youth. Let there be peace.

At the Jordan River, where Jesus allowed Himself to be baptized. Let there be peace.

In Galilee, where Jesus chose His Apostles. Let there be peace.

In Cana, where Jesus performed His first miracle. Let there be peace.

In Capernaum, where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes. Let there be peace.

In Jerusalem, where Jesus shared the Last Supper, where He suffered and died, and where He rose triumphantly from the dead. Let there be peace.

In these, and in all the other places where our Lord lived and walked, where He taught us the way to love one another, where He cured our infirmities and forgave our sin; in all the other places made sacred by His presence and touch, bring about the just and lasting peace that we are unable to bring about through our human efforts.

Pope Francis' prayer for this month of Advent



He prays that the Jubilee in 2025 designated as a Holy Year will "strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope."

He lamented the suffering afflicting our world, saying humanity has great need of hope.

"Christian hope is a gift from God that fills our lives with joy," said the Pope, calling hope an anchor for our lives.

"We have to hold onto the rope of hope – hold on tight," he urged.

Pope Francis went on to invite Christians to allow God to fill our lives with hope, so that we may become gifts of hope for everyone around us.

"Let us help each other discover this encounter with Christ who gives us life, and let us set out on a journey as pilgrims of hope to celebrate that life," he said. He calls on us "to become pilgrims of hope"

Christmas Dues

Envelopes are currently being delivered to each household in the parish and there are also spare envelopes available at the back of the Church. Please ensure that returned envelopes have your name and address on them. Envelopes may be placed in the safes at the back of the church or handed into the Sacristy .

Baptisms

Please welcome into our Christian Community all the children baptised recently in our Parish Church

August 24

Grace Marie McCrave
William Terrence Rowley
Ted Patrick Baxter
Freya Valentina Fahy
Sarah Rose McAnallen
Noah James Ledwidge
Tom David O'Riordan

September 24

Daisy Maria Stapleton
Evan John O'Beirne
Lowen O'Beirne
Eva Kit Whelan
Patrick Eoin Derivan
Leo Alexander Fennell
Aoibhín Rose Byrne
Ted James Stokes

October 24

Rose Penelope Tierney
Ellen Strutt McCarthy
Jude Patrick Gaffney
Francis Makiel Langan
Star Maughan
Sabrina Maughan

November 24

Mikey Patrick O'Donnell
Daniel Martin Jordan
Hannah Claire McEniry
Emily Murphy
Matthew Murphy
Lucas Jonathan Ryan
Yazmin Nason



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2024

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Monday 16th December at 7.30 pm.
(Individual Confessions with communal preparation and thanksgiving (Parish Clergy and visiting Priests))

CAROL SERVICE
Wednesday 18th December at 7.30p.m.

CONFESSIONS
Tuesday 24th December
10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon & 4.00p.m. to 5.30p.m.

MASSES
Tuesday 24th December (*Christmas Eve*)
10.00 a.m., 5.30 p.m. & 8.00p.m. (*Christmas Vigil Mass*)
(*Carols from 7.45p.m.*)

Wednesday 25th December - *Christmas Day*
9.15a.m. & 11.00a.m.
(*Church closes after Mass*)

Thursday 26th December – (*St. Stephen's Day*)
Mass at 10.00 a.m.
(*Church closes after Mass.*)
Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord
Monday 6th January - Mass at 10.00 a.m.

St Joseph's Chapel Rosmini

Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve
10.00 a.m. & 7.00 p.m. (*Vigil Mass*)

Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day
Mass 10.30 a.m.

The Priests of the Parish along with the Parish Team wish you all Peace and Joy for Christmas and the New Year

Appreciation

The late Catherine Ward, Griffith Court



In September last Marino Parish paid a sad farewell to one of its long time stalwarts of the parish community with the death of Catherine Ward of Griffith Court who was finally called home after a long battle with illness.

Ever since her arrival into the parish with her husband John she immersed herself in parish life while at the same time dealing with all her other commitments. She was an early member of the Pastoral Council, was an active participant in the Parish renewal.

Catherine was also a minister of the Eucharist, a Reader and a long time member of the Baptism team and also the Funeral ministry.

She was also involved in her local walking group, Heels, whose support sustained her through many difficult periods of illness.

Her capacity for friendship and her openness to all were the hallmarks of her generous Christian spirit.

On behalf of everyone in the parish we extend our deepest sympathy to her devoted husband John, her son David and daughter in law Maeve and her beloved grandchildren, her brothers and sisters and extended family.

Simply Cooking

Favourite recipes from the late Mary O'Mahony's popular cookery book

ALL-IN-ONE CHRISTMAS CAKE

Ingredients:

1 lb 4ozs (575g) Currants 13 ozs/375g Sultanas
7 ozs (200g) Raisins
5 ozs (150g) Glace Cherries washed and halved,
Almonds blanched and chopped
Mixed Cut Peel
Grated rind of 2 Lemons,
Grated rind of 1 Orange.
3 – 4 Tablespoons Brandy/Whiskey
14 ozs (400g) Plain Flour
1½ level Teaspoons Mixed Spice
¾ Teaspoon Ground Nutmeg
3½ ozs (100g) Ground Almonds
12 ozs (350g) Butter or Margarine
12 ozs (350g) Dark Brown Soft Sugar;
1 Tablespoon Treacle (optional)
7 Large Eggs



Oven Temp.

Preheat Oven Gas Mark 1, 275°F - 140°C, Middle Shelf
10" (25cm) Round Tin, 9"/23cm Square.

Method:

Prepare tin, put double thickness of greaseproof on bottom and sides.
Optional, tie a layer of brown paper around tin.
Place all cake ingredients together in a very large mixing bowl and beat with electric mixer or, even better, with wooden spoon until well mixed (5/6 mins).
Place mixture in prepared tin and smooth top with back of a wet tablespoon.
Bake in pre-heated oven for 4 - 4½ hrs.
Check at intervals after 3 hrs. Turn out. Remove papers.
Test with skewer. Remove from oven – allow to cool in tin,
Wrap in double greaseproof paper and put in tin.

Editors Note: Once again at this time we are republishing one of Mary's handiest recipes for Christmas time.

Sensory Garden Project

We have now started work on the paving in our joint project between the residents' association and GHEEL (Residential Autism Home) in Griffith court.

We have had a close relationship with GHEEL for over 30 years and last year decided to construct a shared sensory garden in the estate for residents of both GHEEL and Griffith Court.

The work has just commenced and we are fortunate to have the support of DCC. We are also most grateful to the Croke Park Community fund (run by Billy O'Keefe) who have assisted us financially to support this worthwhile project.

A debt of gratitude also goes out to the builder of the brand new Rosmini school around the corner, Glasgiveness.

When approached about helping out, the CEO of Glasgiveness construction (Daniel Hart) did not hesitate for 1 second before offering his equipment and staff to help get the project off the ground and they've been busy at it all day for several days already, so thanks again Daniel.

We have several design proposals for the garden but we need assistance in making sure we provide the best facility possible for residents of both GHEEL, GC and visitors of course.

If you can help out in any way (sponsorship, donations or services) we would really appreciate your support.

With thanks and wishing everyone a peaceful Christmas .

Griffith Court Sensory garden committee
And Helena (Gheel) 0860498631



Recent Marriages

Joseph O'Donovan and Elin Gies
John O'Connor and Nessa Doherty
Bernie Keogh and Noah O'Leary
John McNamara and Helen Dowling
Eoin Kennedy and Jessica Murphy



Marino Newsletter Brent Watch

We can confirm that once again the Brent geese have returned to winter at their usual haunts at Clontarf.

The new Dublin Port Greenway also gives you great opportunities to observe not only the Brent geese but a range of sea birds as you head out along the estuary



A Huge Thank You

Sadie Staunton of Griffith Court wishes to give a huge thank you to all who so generously supported her Bewley's Big Coffee Morning in aid of Saint Francis Hospice, Raheny on the 26th September 2024 last which raised the very generous sum of €8,285.



Recent Bereavements

Pleas pray for the following deceased members of our parish:

August 24

Sr. Maeve O'Driscoll
Patrick McKinley

September 24

Catherine Ward
May (Mary) Greagsbey
Sr. Joan Smith C.P.
Margaret O'Neill
Eileen Gallagher
Philip O'Brien
Elizabeth Lenahan

October 24

Carmel Gaynor
Evelyn Paisley
Peter Costello
Susan Hayes
David Davin-Power



November 24

Betty Lynch
Jeremiah (Jerry) McMahon
Patricia Moran
Mary Ward
Niall Cahill
Michael McNamara
Elizabeth (Lilly) Power
Sheila O'Sullivan
Kevin Ryan

The 'humble' cyclamen



The colour of Christmas is generally taken to be red. Santa has a red outfit and red predominates. The red of the holly berry, the robin with its red breast and above all the dazzling red of the poinsettia. However, other colours have also come to the fore especially in our florists, garden centres and hardware stores.

Along with the green of the Christmas wreaths we have those gentle flowers, the cyclamen. In recent years they have been available to us through the Autumn and up to Christmas

Their glorious reds and pinks and various shades in between with purple and the glorious white tinged with pink give such colour wherever we see them. Interestingly enough there

does not seem to be a yellow cyclamen.

Their unassuming beauty allows us to decorate our memorials in the cemeteries as we visit our loved ones.

As the centre piece of beautiful containers and pots the cyclamen brings joy and colour not only to our outdoor spaces but to conservatories and indoor spaces.

Not alone that, as long as they are kept moist and in shelter our little plant can survive and perpetuate itself for months and months.

The cyclamen originally a flower from the Mediterranean basin and up into

southern Europe has been known since biblical times. In both the Christian tradition and in Muslim tradition where the Blessed Virgin is venerated, the cyclamen is identified with Mary and is known as the '*incense of the Virgin Mary*' due to its bulb being used for incense.

Its white flower with its demure head has been associated with the acceptance by Mary of the Angels message. The reddish pink colour is associated with the suffering which she bore with the death of Jesus.

As Christmas approaches bring colour and gentle beauty into your home or as a colourful gift to those you love with a cyclamen.

Farewell



On the 29th November members of the parish team and parishioners from various parish groups came together to bid farewell to Noreen Brunton at an informal retirement party.

After nine years in the Parish office Noreen heads off for pastures new.

She was a valued member of the Parish team and was unfailingly cheerful, caring, and helpful to all who came in contact with her either in the office or on the phone.

Father Noone presented Noreen with a beautiful floral tribute and a suitable gift. He spoke warmly of her contribution over

the years and the qualities she brought to the job.

He wished her every blessing and grace for the future.

Also present were her colleagues and her husband Peter. As an indication of her contributions in so many ways present also were Father Murtagh,

Father Christian, and Monsignor Stenson and Teresa Ayres, Chairperson of the PPC along with her colleagues.



Our photos show Noreen and her husband Peter and with colleagues John Ward, Mary Casserley, Father Tom, Monsignor Stenson and Father Christian. The photographer failed to get a decent shot of the flowers and presentation.