



Happy Easter

“Happy Easter” ... is a greeting that easily trips off the tongue at this time of the year. It’s almost an automatic thing to say. But even for committed Christians the greeting can easily and ritually be extended without really reflecting on what it is meant to convey. What we celebrate at this time of the year is much greater than what could possibly be put into any formula of words or greeting in any language.

The essence of the Easter story confounds those on either side of the ‘leap of faith’. The truth of what we celebrate as Christians defies all logic; it reduces to nonsense its central claim when that claim is filtered through the sieve of human sense or intelligence, as some like to do! But not everyone has to be that blinkered.

Some people suggest it baffles the bewildered and at the same time it bewilders the baffled and how right they are! How could it do anything else when in essence its claim is ‘death is not the end’. To claim that, out of the darkness and sadness of death can come a light of hope, and to suggest that when all else has obviously failed there’s still a hope onto which we can hold. This is extraordinary – in the literal sense!

Now if that’s not enough to properly situate our boast in Jesus the Christ, risen from the dead this Easter, I don’t know what is!!

Talk about ‘nailing your flag to the mast’ has nothing on ‘nailing your hope to a tree’ in terms of wanting to convey a conviction which is so deeply held. Enjoy the season, profit from its promise.

May the truth of this Easter season – Jesus risen from the dead – be both a challenge and a comfort in equal measure for us. That way we’re most likely to keep our balance, while so many around us are losing theirs, in terms of Faith in a God who is Love and who is close.

Happy Easter

Frs. Arthur, Conor & Tom



Holy Week and Easter Celebrations



Holy Thursday, 2nd April

Mass of the Lord’s Supper **7.30 pm**
followed by Watch and Pray

Good Friday, 3rd April

Way of the Cross (**Mass Centre, The Park**) **12 noon**
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion **3.00 pm**
Stations of the Cross followed by **7.30 pm**
Taize Style Prayer around the Cross

Easter Saturday, 4th April

Morning Prayer **10.00 - 10.30 am**
Easter Vigil Mass (**no 6.30 pm Vigil Mass**) **9.00 pm**

Easter Sunday, 5th April

Parish Church: **8.30 am**
(Congregational Singing) **10.00 am**
(Gospel Group) **12.30 pm**
No 4.30 pm Mass

The Park Mass Centre (Family Mass) 11.15 am

Communal celebration of the **Sacrament of Penance** for those who wish to receive it for Easter will be in Johnstown on Mon 30th March at 7.30 pm and Foxrock on Tue 31st March also at 7.30 pm. Here in St Brigid’s individual celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available after the Holy Thursday and Good Friday ceremonies as well as Saturday morning and afternoon. On Mon 6th, Tue 7th, Thurs 9th and Fri 10th April mass will be celebrated at 10 am only each morning. No morning mass on Wed 8th and Sat 11th.

From Monday 6th April to Monday 11th April the **Parish Office** will be closed. Those who wish to contact the office for any reason during this week can do so in the Sacristy at 10.30 am daily.

Love is in the air

A very enjoyable St Valentine's evening was held in the Parish Pastoral Centre on Saturday, 14th February. A welcome drink reception followed by an evening meal and live music with dancing afterwards marked St Valentine's Day 2015 in a very fitting way in St Brigid's.

The evening showcased very well the suitability of our new Pastoral Centre for occasions such as this - or other social occasions as well. Whether it be for private, parochial or community based evenings, for relaxation, partying or educational purposes, the centre has endless possibilities. To have such a venue in the centre of the village, open to the community at large, has proved an enormous contribution to the life of the area.

Even looking around at the neighbouring parishes of Foxrock and Johnstown as well, we can see in their Parish Centres also the drawing power of such a facility. For there to be such a terrific social, educational or recreational hub at the centre of these communities, built entirely as a result of the generosity of the local Christian faith community is indeed a powerful testimony to the Christian contribution of building 'community'. In clusters where neighbours, families, friends and even strangers have access to a



Michael & Jacyntha Byrne



Josephine & John Hickey



Liam & Claire O'Lonorgán



Siobhán & Noel O'Toole

venue to meet and greet each other, occasionally or regularly, accidentally or deliberately- it doesn't come much better than that! Do feel free to explore the most of this facility which has been specifically built for the betterment of all. The following photographs bear a colourful record of a very enjoyable St Valentine's night 2015.

Pictures by John Hickey



Congratulations to **Sara Jane Higgins** and **Laurent De Weuire** on their marriage last autumn.

Gospel Group

Not quite as old as old as the Church itself, but almost since the beginning of Gospel/folk groups being newly introduced into Church services all those years ago - our Gospel Group has been a welcome feature of the 12.30pm Sunday Mass in St Brigid's, Cabinteely.

With the inevitable rollover or turnover of personnel the faithful service of this group has enhanced the atmosphere of prayer on a weekly basis. The commitment of the Gospel Group's members is seen not

only on Sundays, but also in their dedication to the weekly Wednesday night practice. The bond of mutual friendship and respect is very much a characteristic of this group, in their liturgical, musical as well as social settings together.

With the death of one of the group, Pamela Dalton last Christmas day, 2014 ended on a particularly sad note for all members of this group. Pamela's passing is still keenly and sadly felt by all her friends -

but by none more so than by her husband Mark and family - for whom everyday day without her is so different and difficult.

There still remains that silent voice singing each week in the hearts of all those who miss Pamela and to continue to sing without her. May she rest in peace in the presence of the God to whom she (and the many other voices of this group) has helped us pray over many years. *Ar Deis De go raibh a anam dilis.*



Confirmations



The Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for 2015 took place in March – the 13th for the Girls' School – the 20th for the Boys' school.

In their young lives we wish them nothing but the best at this time and for the years that stretch out ahead of them. As their characters unfold and blossom, may they never forget the love that has brought them this far and may they rest always secure in the knowledge that the Spirit of that love was confirmed and pledged to them in the spring-time of 2015 in St Brigid's Church Cabinteely.

The Parish was particularly pleased to welcome back Fr. Paul Callan (former priest of the parish) as Monsignor Paul Callan and celebrant for the two Confirmation Days.

Here's wishing all the boys and girls of this year's class continued happiness in their future lives. May they always be confirmed in their pursuits of what is right, just and true.

Pictures by John Hickey



Fr Tom, Fr Arthur, Aedeon Sweeney, Principal and Monsignor Callan



Aoihe O'Connell, Alannah Ryan, and Aislinn Kelly



Emma Eakins, Emma Glynn, Eimear Cullen, Shauna Carroll, Alice Walsh, Alex Kelly, Saleija Kurpyte



Alex McGlynn and Jack Kelly



Fr. Arthur and group of Confirmation Boys



Twins Dara and Conor McCaul



Twins Sean and Oisín Grassick, Harvey Lavelle, Luke Miller and Daryl Malone



Jack Rigney with sister Taylor and Mum Rachel



Jake Crosbie with his Mum Jeod and Dad Justin



Twins Aidan and Andrew O'Donnell

Monkey survey Feedback!

A big thank you to all who took the time to contribute to our recent Survey in the parish. There was quite an age spread and plenty of feedback in terms of suggestions and ideas, for which we are most grateful.

Collating the responses has been a most interesting and informative exercise for the Parish Pastoral Council – you'll be able to see why in the more fulsome report planned for our June edition of Contact.

In the meantime, rest assured that your ideas/suggestions are being considered and taken on board for the betterment of our parish as a living faith community.

Many thanks again.

P.P.C.

Age Friendly Neighbourhood

A meeting of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council's Age Friendly Programme was also held recently in Cabinteely where themes of respect and social inclusion, safety and security, communication and information, among others, were discussed.

One of the main outcomes of the gathering indicated that Cabinteely is a good place in which to live, with a generally very caring community, with facilities such as shops, transport and other services on which we all depend, reasonably accessible.

The importance of protecting your home, and person, was stressed. Foremost in this regard is prevention – make it more difficult for an intruder to gain access. Under no circumstances permit people into your home that you do not know. The best protection is having a good neighbour, one on whom you can depend, in an emergency. Neighbourhood Watch is also soon to be re-established in the area.



Kenya Project 2015

This project involves seven students and three members of staff from the school travelling to Kitale, Kenya and engaging with the street children in St. Ursula's Primary School starting on Monday 14th until March 26th.

To date, Cabinteely Community School has enabled the building of a kitchen in the school, a playground, science lab and basketball courts for an Aids orphans school. This was made possible with continued support from schools, parishes and businesses in the local and wider Dublin Community.

We would like to thank the parishioners of St. Brigid's for all your donations at our Strawberry sale last August and ask you to remember us and our work in your prayers.



Church Cleaning

Another very important ministry/group in St. Brigid's is ensured by that faithful group of parishioners whose time, regular interest and energy go into the cleaning of our Church building.

This group is divided into a number of small groups who come on a rota basis to ensure the tidiness and appearance of St Brigid's Church. Because of their numbers no one person is over-burdened with a commitment, but with even more willing volunteers, it could be even better in terms of work-load for those already involved.

If anyone reading this piece might have an hour a month to help ensure this important aspect of parish life – please do make contact with the parish office.

This is also an opportunity to express the appreciation of all of us to the existing group who so unobtrusively and so willingly render such service each week. Sometimes we can all unwittingly forget that brasses don't clean themselves; that floors don't sweep themselves and that dust dirt and cobwebs are not debarred from entering Church buildings anywhere! With a footfall of not far off 1,400 across the threshold of the Church in any week – small wonder a small army of further volunteers would be welcomed.

Phone the parish office at **(01) 285 8835** for more details about this or any other ministry in our parish.

Disclaimer

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(tel: 2858835)

for more information.

Make Contact

Like to get involved or have a story, please make contact through the Parish office at

(01) 2858835 info@cabinteelyparish.ie.

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