

Let's begin again

I was reading the article that was written for the Contact Magazine twelve months ago. It was written by the editor Caroline Heywood because Fr. Arthur was out sick at that time. Thank God Fr. Arthur has improved. I noted in her article that at that point he had been twelve months out of action. Caroline was reflecting on the difficulties that the parish was facing with the absence of a full time priest. From all accounts it was very challenging and special thanks were noted to all the staff of the parish and the Parish Pastoral Council who helped steer the ship through the storms. At that point I was in Templeogue Parish unaware that my own life path would change in a few months' time.

I now find myself reflecting back on what will be nearly my own twelve months in Cabinteely Parish. Parishioners often say to me that I must be well settled in by now. But I am still finding my way. It has been both challenging and fulfilling at a time when our country is undergoing rapid change. The Cherrywood development has begun and the Archdiocese is still interested in having a small Church located there. That aspiration is still being looked at.

Over the summer the side room in the Church has been transformed into an "icon chapel" where you are invited "to come and rest for a while". It is a new prayer space where you can spend time reflecting on the beautiful icon there and the Word of God. Thank you to Oisín Gray and team for overseeing this work, which adds greatly to our beautiful church.

It is wonderful at this time of year to see the boys and girls starting primary schools. It is a new beginning as parents let go and allow their children to discover a new world. With each beginning we truly have the possibility to shape the future. Each beginning allows us the chance to let go of the past and its hurts and to allow God to guide us on a new path ahead. In the words of the poet Brendan Kennelly

"Though we live in a world that dreams of ending that always seems about to give in something that will not acknowledge conclusion insists that we forever begin" ("Begin" from The Essential Brendan Kennelly)

Fr. Aquinas T Duffy



First day of school. Dannt Rossiter and Jack Meehan, Ellie McCallum and AnnaLise Peet

Sunday Mass times:

Saturday Vigil at 6.30pm

Sunday: 10am and 12.30pm in St Brigid's Parish Church; 11.15am in St Brigid's Girls' School Mass Centre during term time

The Parish Office is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4 pm.

The Parish Centre is open 9am to 10pm weekdays. Coffee dock open from 10am daily.

“It does exactly what it says on the tin”

Many of us are familiar with the phrase used in a well-known paint brand advertisement: “It does exactly what it says on the tin.” These words came to mind after my recent visit to the Tranquil Tea Rooms in the grounds of Deansgrange Cemetery.



Not long ago a good friend shared a story about how he discovered this little slice of serenity (excuse the pun) shortly after his wife of many years had passed away. He talked about the experience of visiting her grave in Deansgrange the day after the funeral and understandably was feeling a bit at a loss and wondering ‘where do I go from here?’ He found himself walking through the doors of the nearby Tea Rooms, situated at the entrance of the cemetery. As he sat down he was warmly welcomed and a short time later he was enjoying a cafetière of freshly brewed coffee and a sweet treat on the side! This teashop turned out to be a valuable source of encounter and comfort

in the weeks and months that followed and still remains so!

As it turned out, my friend’s warm greeting that day had been offered by Patricia Neylon, the person behind the concept and the tearooms Manager and Chef. She is clearly someone who gives her customers so much more than any ‘work’ title might suggest.

Patricia’s personal imprint is evident from the moment you step into the atmosphere of calm and homeliness. The premises are bright and comfortable and on a recent visit it felt like I was walking into someone’s home. The walls are covered with a wonderful collection of original art work, chosen by Patricia and purchased from participants in Sunbeams House Art initiatives and exhibitions.

There’s a buzz and chatter about the place... the rooms are invariably busy with locals dropping by, and also those who are visiting the cemetery, but the clientele also includes many from further afield prompted to call in following a recommendation or review. Some people are reading quietly in a corner, some are playing board games, while others are talking in small groups. I was struck that I wouldn’t feel out of place on my own, but if you are open to a little company this is the place to be!

Patricia sat down for a chat in between many busy moments looking after everyone who came through the door. Her workday begins at 5.30am with the baking and preparing of cakes and scones and other light snacks. The coffee is freshly ground and she always serves leaf tea. Everything on offer is made daily and is locally sourced where at all possible. While Patricia and her hard working team of co-workers

Fiona, Rachel and Sarah are certainly running a successful business, it’s clear their priorities lie in delivering that ‘something more’

Before I left some of her regulars shared what makes this café so special. “She doesn’t realize the value she gives; the food of course is excellent, but Patricia’s aim is also providing an environment where all feel welcomed and part of a community who cares about them.”

Try the Orange Drizzle Cake... It’s the best I’ve ever eaten.

MD



To sing is to pray twice



St. Brigid's Parish Choir

The present St. Brigid's Choir made its debut over 20 years ago, in February 1995, and since then has enhanced the parish liturgy both at Sunday mass and at all the major ceremonies and liturgical celebrations during the church year.

In that time our choir has broadcast on RTE Television and Radio on many occasions and represented the Dublin diocese at a special pilgrimage for the sick to Knock Shrine, providing music for the ceremony in the basilica. The choir has also joined with choirs from neighbouring parishes and with local singers, in ecumenical services and in a memorable concert performance of Fauré's Requiem in our parish church.

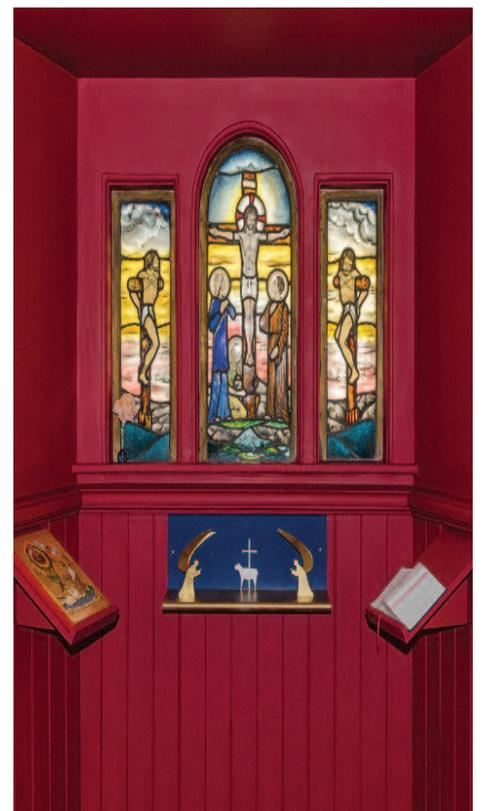
With a current membership of 25 very dedicated singers, the choir embraces a wide repertoire from plainchant and early music through to contemporary liturgical compositions.

Active participation by the congregation is encouraged at all liturgies. Our six cantors, who are also full-time choir members, lead the singing at the 6.30 p.m. Saturday vigil and 10 a.m. Sunday masses. We are also very fortunate to have a pipe organ designed and built specially for our church by Neiland and Creane, Organ Builders of Wexford, in 1995. It was overhauled in 2014 and adds hugely to the musical life of the parish.

As autumn is upon us and the choir returns from its summer break, we look forward to a new season of music and song. New choir members are always welcome and can chat with the choir after the 10 a.m. Sunday mass.

In the words of an old saying, to sing is to pray twice - and St. Brigid's Choir certainly takes that to heart in its contribution to the spiritual and liturgical life of our parish.

TB



New prayer space

A new Icon Chapel was opened at the start of September to provide a new prayer space for parishioners, visitors and prayer groups. It is a place where one can focus on the icon by parishioner Fearghal O'Farrell and on the word of God (readings of the day are available there). We are inviting people in their busy day to take some time out to stop and reflect, to listen and to rest. The Church will of course also remain open for those who wish to pray in front of the tabernacle. Thank you to Oisín Gray and the team who oversaw the refurbishment and to the donor who made it possible.

New Beginnings

As the new school year begins for the 2017-2018 academic year, we greet all our 'new comers' as the children who will 'graduate' from primary school in the year 2024/25. They have started on a very important journey in their lives. It is one of many steps as they

grow and mature. Their journey in faith began at baptism and that journey also continues. We ask God's blessing upon all who are starting primary school and also those starting second and third level education. And may God bless all the parents and staff

of the schools in the year ahead. May this year be one that is filled with opportunity, joy and new adventures.

Pictures (girls) by **John Hickey** and pictures (boys) *courtesy of the Boys' School.*



Annie O'Brien and Lucy Rogers



Ava McAndrew



Georgia Lawlor



Hayley Kavanagh and Abigail Keane



Kitty May Coleman



Ineesha Malik



Evan Coffey



Jack McDonagh, Conor Sweetman & Cillian Byrne



Darrabh Boland & Sener Alex Crisan



Sam O'dígie



Brody Mahon



Darragh Boland

Dancing at the Crossroads

Pictures by **John Hickey**

The annual 'Dancing at the Crossroads Ceili' took place on July 29th. Once again the event showcased the strengths and spirit of our local community, especially when it comes to supporting a gathering or celebration.

Participants of all ages, from babies in buggies to seniors in sneakers, danced, laughed, sang and enjoyed a wonderful selection of food and local delicacies set up in colourful stands around the village.

Credit must again go to the extraordinary efforts of the organisers and volunteers, many of whom work behind the scenes year after year, preparing and planning. This event simply would not be the success it is without their commitment and enthusiasm. The evening brings out the best in what is an essential part of our 'DNA': Our need to experience a sense of belonging and connection, to feel part of a family.

As a Christian community, perhaps evenings like this are a reminder of the importance of giving witness to joy and God's presence, through collaboration and working together... 'nothing is small if it is done out of love.'

MD



Anabelle Wozniak



Fr. Arthur, Ken Heffernan and Fr. Aquinas



Robin, Amy, Aaron and Aisling O'Connor



Hosey and McGuckin Families



Car Raffle: Congratulations to **Michael Healy** winner of the 171 Hyundai i20. Picture shows **Michael** (centre) with (from left) **Garda Caroline Sheridan**, who supervised the raffle, **Fr. Aquinas Duffy**, radio presenter **George Hook** who presided over the draw and **Ann Lehane**.



Congratulations to **Jenny McGinty** and **Gavin Bourke** who were married in St. Brigid's on 4th August.



New Rector: Welcome to **Rev. Alan Breen**, the new Rector of Kill O'Grange Church of Ireland pictured here with **Fr. Aquinas Duffy**.



Baptism of **Maizie Harper O' Leary** pictured (from left) with her parents **Kevin** and **Nicole** and Deacon **Jeremy Seligman**.



Baptism of **James Joseph Sexton** pictured (from left) with Godfather **Eoin O'Donnell**, mum **Emma Sexton**, dad **Andy Sexton** and Godmother **Ciara O'Boyle**.



Congratulations to **Sinead Fahy** and **Stephen Concannon** who were married in St. Brigid's on 28th July. Also pictured (from left) are: **Kevin MacClancy**, **Fiona Fahy**, **Catherine Bone**, **Peter Concannon** and **John Perdue**.



St. Brigid's Parish Pastoral Council hosts a summer supper as a "thank you" to our hard working Parish office team, Sacristans and some of our recently retired PPC members.

'Celebrating 60 years'



Congratulations to three special couples who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversaries in July. Pictured are the happy couples (from left): **Amy Kirwan** (in pink) with her husband **Jim** behind her; **Madge Deegan** with her husband **Danny** and **Dot** and **Barney Carr**. Familiar faces in the Parish, Jim was involved in finance in the parish for many years and is now serving on the Parish Pastoral Council. Madge is one of the Parish coin counters and Barney has served mass several mornings a week for many years and still does.

Farewells



Thank you to Leslie Dowdall who directed the Cabinteely Gospel Choir (pictured) for the last twelve months. Leslie has such a gift and a wonderful voice. She brought so much to the Choir during the year. We wish her continued success in her musical career. We also welcome back Kate Fahy as the new director of the Choir and look forward to hearing the Choir in the coming year. They are also looking for a volunteer keyboard player to join them so if you can help please contact the parish office.

A special thank you also to our book keeper, Frances McLoughlin who retired over the summer. We thank her for the many years of service that she gave and wish her every happiness in her retirement.

Picture by John McGowan



Breaking records...

The Cabinteely AC U14 boys won the gold in the National Athletic Championships 4 x 100m relay and in doing so, broke the National record with a time of 49.92. They were the first U14 team to run a sub 50 second 4 x 100m. Shane Gevero also won the U14 80m and broke the record with a time of 9.57. The team is pictured (from left): Ruairi Myers, David Bosch, Shane Gevero, Peter Kenny, Oisín Doran and Peter Falvey.

Parent/Minder and Toddler Group

Meet every Tuesday morning in Term Time in **St. Brigid's Parish Centre** **From 11am to 12.15pm.**
New Members very welcome.

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Make Contact

Like to get involved or have a story, please make contact through the Parish office at
(01) 2858835
Please note that the Parish email address has changed to **info@cabinteelyparish.ie**.



Congratulations to the Boys from Clonkeen College who won the National Student Enterprise Award in Croke Park in May 2017. Initially there were four of them in the business with the ROC standing for Ross, Oisín, Carl, Cormac. The award was given to Carl Cullen, Ross Byrne and Cormac Spain (pictured) for the invention and marketing of a protective vest for Hurling as part of their Transitional Year Student Enterprise Project. They also came first in the Griffith College Enterprise Competition 2017 and have appeared on the Late Late show twice with Ryan Tubridy. This September they will be at the National Ploughing Championships in the Enterprise Village thanks to Enterprise Ireland. More information at...

www.rocprotection.com

Our Parish Volunteers:

"Ordinary people
with extraordinary hearts"!

St. Brigid's Parish will host a
Volunteer Appreciation Morning to acknowledge
the volunteers who serve our parish community

commencing with a Thanksgiving Mass at

10am, October 8th 2017

Followed by refreshments and fun in the
Pastoral Centre

Further information will be available shortly in
Church and Pastoral Centre

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Wednesday afternoon Senior Club

New members very welcome

2pm to 4pm.

Lifts can be arranged, if required.

Are you free on a rota basis to offer a lift
to members of our Senior Club?

Drivers required to collect our members
from home and return home.

Contact the Parish Office for further information.

Disclaimer

This Newsletter is published by the Newsletter Team of St. Brigid's Parish, Cabinteely, Dublin 18. Unless specifically stated, views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Parish Clergy or the Newsletter Team. Items accepted for inclusion are subject to normal editorial discretion. Errors and omissions will be corrected in subsequent issues.

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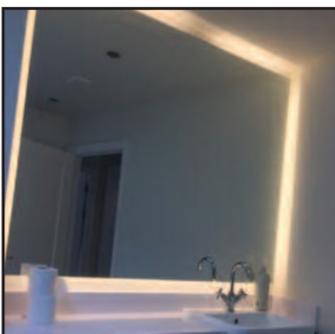
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