

Remembering Family

When I was a child I used to love to spend Easter with my grandparents in Kenmare Co Kerry. They used to tell me that there was a tradition in Kerry that if one could get up very early on Easter Sunday Morning before Sunrise, one would see the Sun dance as it rose. I can remember on more than one occasion trying to get up early but I never succeeded. But it did make me appreciate that there was something special about Easter, that life could never be the same again because Jesus had risen from the dead. The Risen Jesus gave a whole new meaning to what life is about and a desire to live every moment to the full.

Easter is one of those special opportunities to connect with family and to spend precious time with them. Families come in all shapes and sizes and there are no perfect families. Family is the place where we learn our first emotions and prayers and our first experience of being loved. I am conscious that for some, family has not been a positive experience and some people can spend the rest of their lives working things out. But for many no matter what age, family is often the place that we return to in the midst of the storms of life. It is the place where we do not have to wear a mask but can be truly ourselves and take shelter from the storms. It is perhaps only later in life when a parent or grandparent has died that one truly appreciates the sacrifices that were made and the depth of the love given.

Next August the Church in Ireland will host the World Meeting of Families. It is an opportunity for everyone and especially for families to come together and to celebrate. It will also be an opportunity for us to join with Pope Francis in the celebrations and in the Eucharist. I encourage you to register for this once in a lifetime event by going to the website www.worldmeeting2018.ie. It will create memories for your children and their children and perhaps sow seeds that will last them a lifetime and beyond.

May I also take this opportunity to invite you to take part in the ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter. May I wish you a very Happy Easter.

Fr. Aquinas T Duffy



Parishioners thinking outside the chocolate box for St. Valentine's Day

Holy Week and Easter Celebrations in St. Brigid's, Cabinteely



Penitential Services

Monday 26th March – St. Brigid's Parish 7.30 pm
Tuesday 27th March – Foxrock Parish 7.30 pm
Wednesday 28th March – Johnstown Parish 7.30 pm

Holy Thursday, 29th March

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7.30 pm
followed by 'Watch and Pray',
a period of quiet, prayer and reflection

Good Friday, 30th March

Celebration of the Lord's passion 3.00 pm
Stations of the Cross 7.30 pm

Easter Saturday, 31st March

Swieconka – Polish Blessing of the Baskets 11.00 am
Easter Vigil Mass (no 6.30 pm Vigil Mass) 8.00 pm

Easter Sunday, 1st April

Parish Church (Choir) 10.00 am
(Gospel Group) 12.30 pm

The Park Mass Centre:

(Family Mass) 11.15 am

On Mon 2nd April,

Morning mass will be celebrated at 11.00am
Mass on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00am

Services are broadcast live at www.cabinteelyparish.ie

There will be no 11.15 am Mass in the Mass Centre in St. Brigid's Girls School on Sunday 8th April. Mass will resume in the Mass Centre on Sunday, 15th April.

The Parish Office will be closed from 2nd to 6th April and reopen on the Monday 9th April.

Shedding light on the stained glass windows in St. Brigid's Church



The stained glass windows in St Brigid's Church, Cabinteely are a fine example of stained glass produced by Earley studios and Clarke studios. The windows at each side of the nave and those behind the altar were designed by Leo Earley and made by Earley Studios in the 1950's.

The windows were funded by Joe McGrath of the

Sweepstakes fame. Leo drew the life-size cartoons in charcoal, which were then traced by glass painters onto stained glass and fired in a kiln. The glass pieces were then assembled with lead supports – hence 'leaded lights' being used as a term to describe such windows. These windows therefore are stained glass with the colour being part of the glass itself as distinct from

painted glass.

Earley Studios was founded in 1964 at Number One Camden Street, Dublin and was known as Earley & Powell, having its origins in the firm of ecclesiastical artists, Hardmans of Birmingham. Thomas Earley (1819-1893) had been trained in Birmingham as a Gothic decorator and stained glass painter by A W Pugin, the noted Gothic revivalist architect. Thomas was born of Irish parents, most probably from Drumshambo in Co Leitrim.

In the period 1864-1975 four generations of Earleys worked in the studios, which produced statues, altars, marble work, mosaics, Stations of the Cross and stained glass windows. John Bishop Earley (1854-1935) and William Earley (1872-1956) each had a distinctive style, examples of which are all over Ireland and in many churches and convents abroad, as far afield as Nova Scotia, various parts of the Americas and Australia.

Leo Earley designed windows from the late 1940s to 1975 when the studios closed. His style was influenced by the 1920's work of Harry Clarke whose distinctive style revolutionised Irish stained glass. However, Leo's style was softer and less stylised making it more popular to clergy and parishioners in many instances.

There are seven Earley windows in St. Brigid's Church in Cabinteely. The eighth window, which is behind the organ, is by Joshua Clarke, father of Harry Clarke. The three windows behind the high altar (pictured) depict the crucifixion with Mary Magdalene at the foot of the cross in the central panel.

There are four windows in the nave depicting St. Brigid shown with her lamp and reeds, and the smaller panel showing the oak as symbol of her faith; St Joseph with lilies and the smaller panel depicting the flight into Egypt; St. Therese, the Little Flower, with roses; and St. Patrick with shamrock, crozier, and the church he consolidated in Ireland. Celtic borders surround the windows behind and to each side of the altar.

Prof. Michael Earley

Open letter to Parishioners

Dear Parishioners,

My name is Stephanie and I am a voluntary church cleaner here in the parish.

I couldn't remember how many years I have been on my team of cleaners so I did a little research and to my surprise this is my 17th year. There are four church cleaning teams; each team cleans just once a month. There were five lady members on our team but we are now unofficially down to four. We don't have any men on our team yet!! We give one hour a month, that's 12 hours over a year to church cleaning.

There is a rota in place so you always know 6 months in advance what day you are on duty. Here in the parish we are known as Team 2, however a few years ago we gave ourselves a company name for fun. We are "The Trinity Cleaning Company" and our cleaning day is a Friday from 10.30–11.30am.

For me it is one of the nicest days in my month, cleaning here is a hundred times more rewarding

than cleaning at home. I have made so many friends here in the parish and had such good fun.

I was a little concerned before I volunteered for this position. I thought would need to start wearing a long pleated skirt, cardigan, headscarf and string of pearls. If this is a concern of any of you let me put your mind at rest, we don't have a uniform!

Many years ago when I lived in Galway a woman called to my door and took me by surprise by her request for help. "Would you have any spare elasticated trousers?" she asked. How clever was she, she was covering all options so that waist size didn't matter, as long as they were elasticated she would make them fit.

So today I am making an appeal on behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council for "Elasticated Volunteers." Stretch yourself a little and come and volunteer to help with one of our many groups. We know you will fit in and I can assure you, you will be made most very welcome. Thank you.

Stephanie

For anyone interested in getting involved, please contact the Parish Office.



Pictured are some of the members of the Parish cleaning team: **Vanessa Caminiti, Joan O'Shea and Jean Sheehan.** Absent are **Siobhan Semple and Mary Farrell.**

Photographs with thanks to John Hickey

Thinking Outside the Chocolate Box

As part of the preparations for the World Meeting of Families taking place in Ireland this coming August, Pope Francis encouraged us to 'think outside the chocolate box' for Valentine's Day. So, while appreciating we all love a box of chocolates or a gift, we also marked this celebration by giving our time and attention to each other.

WMOF2018 produced free gift tokens for Parish Communities nationwide to offer to their loved ones,

which suggested ideas and activities to mark the day and in the words of Pope Francis, "help our love grow".

Our Senior Social Club along with other community volunteers assembled the tokens and we invited everyone to choose one from the baskets as they left the church, encouraging everybody to put the activity written on the token into practice during the following week.

Refreshments and homemade cakes prepared by our volunteer hospitality team were served in the Pastoral Center following 10am mass.

The celebration was very enjoyable and appreciated for offering us an opportunity to witness to the spirit of welcome and warmth so evident in our community.

A BIG thanks to all who gave of their time and talents to help make it happen! **MD**



Photographs with thanks to John Hickey

World Meeting of Families 2018 - The Joy of Love

The World Meeting of Families is an initiative started by Pope St. John Paul II in 1994 to celebrate the importance of family in society. Held every three years, Ireland will now become one of only a handful of cities chosen to play host to this huge international event.

Thousands of visitors from all over the world are expected to convene in Dublin's RDS for this five-day event culminating in a final mass on 26th August, which it is hoped will be celebrated by Pope Francis.

Beginning with a National Opening in every diocese in the country on 21st August, the Meeting includes a three-day Congress (21st - 24th) of keynote speakers, workshops, exhibitions and art and cultural events. On the evening of the 25th a "Festival of Families" will take place, including music, prayer, dance, song and storytelling from participants around the world.

Running parallel to the Congress will be specific programmes for youths (aged 13+) and children (aged 4-12) and parents attending the adult schedule of events will be able to leave their children in the safe hands of vetted World Meeting representatives. Booking is required for ALL events, including the Final Mass, which is free of charge and group and family tickets are available.

As the date for the big event gets closer, St. Brigid's parish has been busy getting in to celebratory mood and have already distributed some alternative St. Valentine's day gift tokens, which promised the recipient an act of love such as a technology-free evening activity together, an evening meal cooked for them, a family outing or loads of tender hugs. Special thanks are due to local restaurants Trentuno, Las Tapas, Bhansa Ghar and Pielo's, who joined in the fun by mak-



Susannah Healy & Anne Corcoran – St. Brigid's Parish representatives for World Meeting of Families 2018

ing the tokens available to their customers. They remind us that a community is also a family.

Many more activities, which remind of our faith as a way of life are offered in the lead-up to the main event in August. At Easter, water will be blessed and made available to take away to bless our homes. Children making their Confirmation are encouraged to record an act of kindness on an online "book" and in a twist to the traditional Céad Mile Fáilte, it is hoped that we as a nation will be able to present Pope Francis with a book of 100,000 Acts of Kindness recorded by our young people.

The Trocaire Romero Awards encourage families, groups or schools to create their own project that works to fight social injustice. www.trocaire.org/parish.

Reflection: Wake Up Call

Easter is a wakeup call – to a beautiful day and a wonderful way of life. Christ is risen...he is risen indeed.

You can bury truth but it will always rise again. Truth of today – we come from God and we go to God. Jesus found that too this day. Nothing not even death could keep him from returning in glory to God.

But in between...that's where we are now. And today is the new wake up call. Remember waking up

– to a big day. Graduation, ordination, wedding, holiday, falling in love, your child's birthday, going to a new school – these are awakenings to a new day.

Or to a bad day, a funeral, redundancy, illness. We know some day we will waken for the last time. The last time this side anyway. Celebrating Easter – waking up to a big new world in and around us, and Easter really is every day.

Donal Neary S.J.

Brian Brennan and Micheál Gormley RIP

It was with great sadness that we heard about the deaths of two very active parishioners. Brian Brennan (Choir, Cantor, reader, liturgical displays, prayer groups and so much more) died on the 14th January 2018. Micheál Gormley (Guitarist in the Cabinteely Gospel Choir) died on the 26th January 2018. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.



Brian Brennan



Micheál Gormley



Polish Blessing of Baskets

Swieconka (sh-vee-en-soon-kah) is one of the most enduring and beloved Polish traditions. Baskets containing a sampling of Easter foods are brought to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday. The basket is traditionally lined with a white linen or lace napkin and decorated with sprigs of boxwood (bukszpan), the typical Easter evergreen.

Poles take special pride in preparing a decorative and tasteful basket with crisp linens, occasionally embroidered for the occasion, and just enough boxwood and ribbon woven through the handle. Observing the beautiful foods and creations of other parishioners is one of the special joys of the event.

Swieconka will take place in St. Brigid's Church Cabinteely on Holy Saturday 31st March at 11am. All are welcome.

Photo by Magda Kohden

Cherrywood Update

Recently I had a tour of the new Cherrywood development area. I was amazed at how much has changed since I last saw it. Many of the large roads are now in place. The Sports Club is almost complete and the new Parks are an advanced level. As regards a Church presence in Cherrywood, the Archbishop is still anxious to have a small Church there and is still working on that proposal.

Clearly the Pastoral Care of Cherrywood will need to be the responsibility of the Pastoral Area (Foxrock, Cabinteely and Johnstown-Killiney) rather than one parish. Currently the moderator of the Pastoral Area is Fr. Frank Herron (Foxrock). The concept of a "Pastoral Area" is still very much a work in progress. It can be difficult for people to see beyond their individual parish boundaries, but I suspect the declining number of clergy will alter that perception.

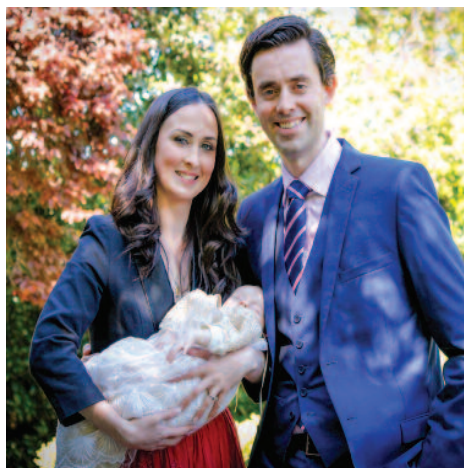
Fr. Aquinas

Celebrating Tidy Towns Awards



The Cabinteely Tidy Towns Team were joined by local residents, politicians and DLR Staff, in Trentuno Cafe 31 to celebrate their three Tidy Towns awards in 2017 and to launch their action plan for 2018. The Tidy Towns Awards were Silver Medal in SuperValu

National Tidy Towns 2017, having won a Bronze Medal in both 2015 and 2016; SuperValu National County Dublin Commended award and Best Town/Village (pop <3000) in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Council Tidy Districts Awards.



Congratulations to **Karl Melady** and **Wendy Grace** whose son **Matthew Gerard Joseph Melady** was baptised by his Uncle **Fr. Nicholas Grace** in St. Brigid's Church on 7th May 2017.



Congratulations to **Mike Sweeney** and **Siobhán Hinchy**, whose daughter **Lucy Sweeney** was baptised in St. Brigid's Church recently. They are pictured with godfather **Eoin Hinchy** (left) and godmother **Sarah Hayes** (right).

Wedding Bells



Congratulations to **Eddie Riley** and **Roisin Tobin** who were married in St. Brigid's Church on Thursday, 28th December 2017. Pictured with the bride and groom (Centre) are (left to right) **Áine Quinn**, **Niamh Maguire**, **Ashling Owens**, **Philip Riley** and **Owen Murphy**.

Golf Classic

**St. Brigid's Parish Cabinteely 18th.
Parish Golf Classic
Thursday 17th May 2018
Old Conna Golf Club**

Format: - Rumble - Four Person Team
(any combination)

Special Prizes:

Nearest the Pin - Ladies & Men

Longest Drive - Ladies & Men

Timesheet open January 2018

Entry Fee including Golf and Meal:

€300 per team or €75 per person

Meal served in Parish Centre from 8pm

Prize-giving at 9.30 pm

Sponsorship of Hole €100

**Contact Parish Office
285 8835**

to book your tee-time (tee-times from 12 noon).
Donations and Prizes would be most appreciated.

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Attending the children's family mass in the Girls' School Mass Centre recently were **John** and **Susan Dwyer** with their children **Paddy** and **Emma**.

MAKE CONTACT

Like to get involved or have a story? We'd love to hear from you. Please make contact through the Parish office at (01) **2858835** or email

contact@cabinteelyparish.ie.

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