

Carol-Singing

A very sincere "Thank You" to all our parishioners who gave so generously to the pupils, parents, teachers and members of the Board of Management of St. Columba's N.S. on their annual carol-singing on the roads of the parish on Tuesday night, 8th December. A total of €1,120 was collected by the different carol-singing groups in one hour. This has now been divided between the local Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Simon Community – each receiving €560. A very Happy Christmas to you all from St. Columba's School. E. Whelan, St. Columba's N.S., Iona Road.

Saint Columba's National School,

Applications are being taken for girls for Junior Infants beginning next September 2016. Please phone the school secretary any school day morning (Phone 8305040) between 9 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. for a Pre-Enrolment Form. Interested parents should also note that we may have a limited number of vacancies for girls in some of the classes from Senior Infants to Sixth Class. School website is www.stcolumbaionard.net Eileen Whelan (Principal)

Newbridge College, Co Kildare 18th – 20th December 2015 **Youth 2000** invites all young adults between ages of 16-35 to a Catholic weekend retreat taking place from 18th-20th December 2015 at Newbridge College, Co. Kildare This will be an exciting weekend attracting over 600 young people from all over the country. Booking is essential. For more info or to book your place, see www.youth2000.ie, Youth 2000 Ireland Facebook page or Tel: 00353 (0) 1 6753690

Fr. Maurice Foley (19 Iona Drive) a member of the Columban Fathers, returned to the parish on Friday and celebrated the 9.30 a.m. Mass. He has spent 55 years on the missions in Korea and Peru but has now returned to Ireland and is living in Dalgan Park. He expressed his delight at having the privilege of returning to Iona - where he got his vocation - and celebrating the Morning Mass.

Parish Book Centre

Call in today and see our beautiful selection of Christmas Cards. Cribs, Candles, and 2016 calendars & diaries We also have The Irish Catholic newspaper is on sale here every week. We are open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Before and after Mass. ALSO for sale St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards 12 for €5.00



Please visit St. Columba's Parish website at www.ionaroadparish.ie and email your comments, good news stories and special parish events to info@ionaroadparish.ie

Items for the **Parish Link** can be e-mailed to parishlink@gmail.com or dropped into the Parish Office letter-box, marked 'Parish Link', by 5pm on the Thursday of week of publication. A contact name and phone number is required for each item. Phone contact is **Parish Office 01 8308257 or 087 6728761**



Parish Office Opening Times and contact: Monday to Friday 09.30a.m. - 12.30p.m. Ph. 8308257 or email: saintcolumba@eircom.net

PARISH LINK



Issue No 22/43

Parish of St. Columba

12th December 2015



As we light our Third Advent Candle this week May we open our hearts to the light of Christ. May His light increase in brightness, Through our love and efforts this Advent.

There are prayer cards beside the Jesse Tree and you are invited to write a prayer and place it on the Jesse Tree. The prayers will then transfer onto the big Christmas Tree when it is erected.



Prayer for the Jubilee of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Amen.

Mission Statement

St. Columba's parish is a vibrant and welcoming community of faith, continuing to give practical witness to the Good News of Christ, through worship and reflection, and through Christian service to the community.

CROSSCARE FOOD BANK APPEAL

Please bring non-perishable food items to Masses this weekend to be distributed directly to individuals and families in need through local community food banks and also to over 70 other charities in Dublin who are working with those most in need.



An Evening of Carols & Festive Readings with the Dublin Diocesan Music Group in the **Monastery of St. Alphonsus, Monday 14 December 2015, 8.00 p.m.** All donations on the evening will be given to the Fr. Peter McVerry Trust

St. Columba's Church Iona Road CHRISTMAS IN SONG AND WORD

With The People's College Choir
the Children of St Columba's N. School and
St Vincent's N. School and Eoin Tierney - organist
Sunday 20th December 5.00pm to 6.00pm



Hello All! We are currently busy preparing and practising our music for Christmas Day. However, we need and would love for any new recruits to join our **Folk Group!!** Young or wise we'd be delighted to have you!
If interested, contact Claire: (087) 219 2640 or
Orla via facebook <https://www.facebook.com/thefolkgrouponiaroadparish/>
Practices take place each Monday at 7.30pm in the church.

Thank You.

The Chawke Family wish to thank all who prayed for Aine Chawke during her long illness. We are very grateful to all who attended her funeral on Monday, 30th November in Porterstown Church, to those who offered condolences in many ways and for Holy Mass celebrated on Thursday, 10th December. May She Rest In Peace.

The family of the late Kathleen Kelly of St. Columba's Road Upper, wish to thank, most sincerely, those who visited the house, attended the funeral and sent Mass cards. A donation was made to St. Francis Hospice in her memory.

Iona Active Retirement The Christmas lunch which was held in the Maples last Thursday was most enjoyable. Santa Claus (Michael Chawke) arrived with a sack of spot prizes which had been beautifully wrapped by Maureen Phelan and Angela McCann. It was good to see the Parish Priest in circulation again since his accident - in fact he won one of the spots.
Monday 28th December: Meet at the Monastery of St. Alphonsus at 10.15 a.m. An outing will be organized for the Bank Holiday.

A note from Fr. Jim Finally I have my date for entry to Mepkin - 12th Jan 2016. Family & Friends are invited to Mass in Our Lady of Mercy Artane on Sat 9th Jan. at 6.30pm (tea after)
All Welcome. Fr. Jim

Parish Mass Times and Mass Intentions

Mass intentions for week commencing Saturday DECEMBER 12th.

Sat.	12th	6.00pm	Edna Dempsey (A) Maureen & Stephen McLoughlin (A) Walter Ainsworth (Months mind) Dermot Cross (A) Teresa Ryan (A) Stella Lawless (A)
Sun.	13th	11.00am	Elizabeth Roxburgh (A)
Mon.	14th	9.30am	Heffernan & Rickerby Family (A)
Tue.	15th	9.30am	Sheila Doherty (Rec Dec.)

Sunday morning Mass @ 9.45am in Glasnevin Cemetery (Finglas Rd)

Mass Times in the Monastery of St. Alphonsus, Iona Road:
Monday to Friday @ 5.45 p.m. Saturday morning @ 9.30 a.m. and Sunday morning @ 9.30 a.m.

For all baptisms please contact the Parish Office @ 01 830 8257

FAMILY OFFERING

We thank you for your contribution to the FAMILY OFFERING the parish collection, amounting to €763.85 (This is the amount received in envelopes; an average weekly total of €535.00 is also contributed by Standing Order).

Sacrament of Penance for Christmas

Sat. 19th Dec. 12.00 - 1.00p.m. Thurs. 24th Dec. 10.00a.m. - 11.00a.m.

Advent Reconciliation Services in each of the following Churches at 7.30p.m.

Monday 14th December :	Our Lady of Dolours, Glasnevin.
Wednesday 16th December :	Our Mother of Divine Grace, Ballygall.
Monday 21st December :	Our Lady of Victories, Ballymun Road.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul **Christmas Appeal** will take place this Sat & Sun and will replace the Share collection.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul also wish to thank the pupils, teachers and parents of St. Columba's School for their most generous donation of **€560** collected during their recent carol singing. They can be assured that it will be well spent on the poor of the parish

Christmas Visit to St. Mary's Hospital On Saturday, December 19th, some of us are bringing gifts to the elderly in St. Mary's Hospital at 1:00pm. You are welcome to come and bring a gift. Contact Emer O'Brien.



'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'