

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)



Inspiration from Pope Francis

“Let the risen Jesus enter your life - welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk; you won't be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid. Trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you, and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do.”

An occasional 'babysitter' needed for two teenagers who live in Crawford Avenue. An interest in cerebral palsy/autism/gaming would help. Good pay rates. Please contact 085 1289342

Celebrate New Year's Eve with a difference! A simple service of music, reflections and silence will take place in the church of Our Lady of Dolours, Glasnevin from 11.30pm-12.15am on New Year's Eve, as we cross the threshold into the New Year.



Join us as we pray for a New Year of peace, mercy and hope for all.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, World Day of Prayer for Peace Mass (New Year's Day) - will take place at 11am in the church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Foxrock. Theme: *Overcome indifference and win peace.*



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

Please note the Parish Office will be closed until Mon 4th January 2016

PARISH LINK



Issue No 22/45 Parish of St. Columba Christmas Day - 25th December 2015



“She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.”

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.

Didn't the year simply fly! It seems no time since last Christmas!



This time last year was my first Christmas in the parish. I had experienced the warmth of welcome but also the understanding and acceptance that it was a new stage in my life and that not everything expected or hoped for could be fulfilled. Yet things did happen. Many people are involved. And there is always a welcome for everybody to be involved.

With a lifetime spent in the world of liturgy, liturgical music, liturgical design and architecture, I see many areas of our parish life that make a common agenda and programme for all of us. Let the conversation begin. No! Let the conversation *continue*. Look at our church, one hundred years old and, more importantly, at what we do as we gather in worship, daily, weekly, seasonally, and at different times during the year.

What we do at worship prompts us to reach out, to see the needs of others, and in this Year of Mercy, to be merciful as God our Father is merciful.

In 2016 we will look back to events of one hundred years ago. May the New Year bring us peace and hope for the future.

This Christmas sees me returning to duties after a lengthy absence due to a fractured shoulder. I have been the recipient of so many words and deeds of kindness, of understanding and good wishes and prayers. Thank you.



Happy Christmas. Fr. Paddy

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Holy Hour of Adoration of Blessed Sacrament will take place on Friday 8 January, after 9.30 Mass.

(Note the transfer of time for January from the First Friday as it is New Year's Day).

Iona Active Retirement

The members who attended the Croke Park Community Christmas dinner last Sunday had a wonderful time. The dinner was delicious. **Monday 28th December:** Meet at 10.15 a.m. at the Monastery. Depending on the weather an outing will be arranged. **Thursday 14th January:** Monthly meeting at 10.15 a.m. in the Annex.



St. Columba's, Iona Road, Parish Mass Times and Mass Intentions

Thursday, 24th Dec. Christmas Eve Mass for Christmas: 6.00pm. & 9.00pm.

Friday, 25th Dec. Christmas Day: 9.45am. (Cemetery Chapel) 11.00am. Iona Rd.

Saturday, 26th Dec. St. Stephen's Day: 11.00am. (St Alphonsus Monastery)

Vigil Mass for Sunday: 6.00pm. Iona Rd. - John King (A)

Sunday, 27th Dec. Feast of the Holy Family: 9.45am. (Cemetery Chapel) 11.00am. Iona Rd. Bridget & Bernard Kelly (A)

Monday, 28th through to Thursday 31st Dec. mass @ 9.30am. in St. Alphonsus Monastery.

Friday 1st Jan. 2016 - New Year's Day - Feast of Mary, Mother of God: Mass 11.00am. in St Alphonsus Monastery.

Sat. 2nd Jan. 6.00pm. Iona Rd. - Olive O'Neill (Months Mind)

Sun 3rd. Jan. 11.00am. Iona Rd. - Mary O'Reilly (A)

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 €782.85 last weekend. (This is the amount received in weekly envelopes; an average weekly total of €535.00 is also contributed by Standing Order).

Parish Book Centre

Call in today and see our beautiful selection of candles, 2016 calendars & diaries. We also have the Irish Catholic newspaper on sale here every week. We are open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday - before and after mass.



FOLK GROUP

Want to sing? Join the 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/thefolkgroupionaroadparish/> Practices take place each Monday at 7.30pm in the church.

From Fr. Jim : Finally I have my date for entry to Mepkin Abbey - **12th Jan 2016!** Family and friends are invited to Mass in Our Lady of Mercy, Artane on Saturday, 9th Jan. at 6.30pm (tea after). All Welcome.

