

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 12/7/2020**

It was great to welcome back parishioners for Mass last Sunday, our first Sunday. We were a bit nervous, as we had no idea how many would turn up, and the cap was 50, but thanks to many of our weekday Mass participants who stayed at home so that no one would be turned away. A huge thanks to our stewards for their caring stewarding of parishioners as they arrived, and to our parish team and Steering Committee, led by our parish secretary, Sheila, who have put in so much hard work in getting the church ready for the restart.

The following measures have been put in place for the safety of everyone:

- \* Parishioners may only enter by the side door of the church, as we need to count the number of parishioners who enter. We ask parishioners to form a queue along the wheelchair ramp outside the church for a few minutes before they can safely enter. Stewards will be on hand to assist, and while waiting, we invite parishioners to observe the two metre distance.

- \* For the present only 50 people will be able to attend at any one celebration of Mass. Every second pew has been cordoned off and, apart from family groups, only one person or couple may sit at either end of the available pews. For the first few Sundays at least parishioners will be seated as they arrive by stewards rather than choosing their own seat.

- \* Parishioners will be encouraged to wear their own face mask to Mass and to sanitise their hands immediately on entering the church. The location of the hand sanitisers are clearly indicated. Please read and follow the directions on all the signs.

- \* Parishioners will receive instructions from the celebrant or a steward as to when they may approach the altar to receive Holy Communion. They are asked to keep the two metre distance when approaching the altar and to stretch out their arm fully in order to receive Communion from the priest/minister's equally outstretched hand.

- \* Once the maximum number the church can safely accommodate is reached, any other parishioners will be invited to remain standing outside the church at 2 metre distance or to return home and follow the Mass on the webcam. Holy Communion will be brought to those standing outside the church.

- \* We want parishioners to feel safe when coming to Mass. There is no expectation on any parishioner at a vulnerable age or with an underlying health condition to attend Sunday Mass. Parishioners who are free during the week are encouraged to attend Mass on a weekday (except Tuesday) rather than on Sunday, so that those who are only free to attend on Sundays may do so.

- \* The church needs to be cleaned and disinfected after each Mass and before the next one, so we would really welcome the assistance of volunteers.

Mass will continue to be streamed via the webcam facility which can be accessed via the parish website ([www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)) at 6.00pm on Saturday and 11.00am each Sunday. and 10.30am weekdays.

**Fr. Richard Sheehy**

# PARISH LINK

Issue No 27/27

Parish of St. Columba

12 July 2020



**Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!’**

**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.**



## Marriage Preparation Courses

ACCORD Dublin continues to provide marriage preparation courses for couples in the diocese. Despite having had to cancel 26 courses between March and July, we were able to reschedule the majority of our couples, and for those whose weddings are going ahead during this period, we are delivering individual courses via Zoom. Our team of experienced facilitators is being assisted by 3 priests and a deacon. The feedback from these courses has been overwhelmingly positive. We can reassure you that any coupled referred to us will be taken care of to our usual high standard. For further information please contact: [lcchambers@accordublin.ie](mailto:lcchambers@accordublin.ie)



The Sanctuary Garden, the setting for all our workshops and courses before the lockdown. We welcomed people into share this space every day and it is very strange indeed seeing it empty. It is almost like the blooms are putting on an even more spectacular show in the hope that they might attract a visitor or two!

We would love to welcome guests back here to enjoy it but first, we have a lot of work to do. That is why we are going to spend the next two months making sure this space is safe for anyone who enters. We

want to take our time with this to make sure it is done properly. For the time being we will continue to run all our courses and free weekly meditations online.

We are so grateful to have this option as it not only keeps us in touch with the community but it keeps us going. There is still much work to be done within our community and we will do our utmost to reach as many people as we can.

For now please remember to stay safe and remain compassionate to others around you. We will keep you updated with any further news about when we are going to open our doors.

Love from The Sanctuary Team :) The Sanctuary [<mailto:enquiries@sanctuary.ie>]

## The Irish Hospice Foundation -

National Freephone Service  
Have you been impacted by a bereavement during COVID-19? Are you finding it difficult to cope with a bereavement at this time? Would it help to talk to someone in confidence about your loss? The Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support Line is a national freephone service - 1800 80 70 77 - available from 10.00am to 1.00pm, Mon-Fri

**Interested in studying theology**, but need a flexible programme to suit your needs? The DCU BA in Theology and Religious Studies is just for you. This part-time, flexible programme is aimed at mature students, with lectures on Thursday evenings and a handful of Saturdays throughout the year. For 2020/21, the programme will feature blended learning, with online and in-person learning opportunities. Scholarships are available for new incoming students. More info at [www.dcu.ie/dc300](http://www.dcu.ie/dc300), or contact Brad Anderson ([brad.anderson@dcu.ie](mailto:brad.anderson@dcu.ie)).

## Mass Intentions for this week

Sat.	11th	6.00pm	Patrick & Brigid Caine (A) Fran Hession & Thomas Davidson (A)
Sun.	12th	11.00am	John Barry (A)
Sat.	18th	6.00pm	P.J.Doyle (A)
Sun.	19th	11.00am	Edmond Costello (1st A)



To date, the ALONE COVID-19 Support Line has received in excess of 22,377 calls for support from vulnerable older people all over the country who need support, advice, or sometimes just reassurance.

**CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE 0818 222 024**

If you have concerns or queries about Covid-19 call ALONE's dedicated support line everyday, 8.00am - 8.00pm

## Weekly Donations to Parish & Diocese:

Our thanks to those who have been leaving in family offering envelopes over the past few weeks. Thank you for your support.

## Our updated Website:

We now have a '**DONATE**' Button on the parish website which may make it easier for you to support the maintenance of the parish during these difficult times. You can donate to the Family Offering as well as the 1st and 2nd collections, if you wish, by clicking on the **DONATE** button and then following the instructions.

**The first and Second collections at Sunday Mass are gathered up by placing your donation in the envelope provided on your seat. It is recommended to parishioners not to seal the envelopes for the first and second collections by licking them, as this would be unwise in the current climate.**

Of course, you can continue to donate by dropping your donation directly into the Parish Office or the safe at the back of the church. Your generosity is not only appreciated but is very encouraging at this time. **THANK YOU.**



The Monastery chapel reopened for public worship last Sunday 5th July.

The capacity in the chapel, at any one time, excluding community and celebrant, is 21. The Sisters request that those who wish to attend should register and book a place by contacting :

**Sr. Maire Brid on 086 189 08 53.**

Please ring or text Sr. Maire Brid before 2 p.m.

No one should go to the Monastery unless a place has been allocated and confirmed by Sr. Maire Brid.

## Pope Francis

"Our Life spreads light when it is given in service.  
The secret of joy is living to serve."



Please visit St. Columba's Parish website at [www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie) and email your comments, good news stories and special parish events to [info@ionaroadparish.ie](mailto:info@ionaroadparish.ie)

Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to [parishlink@gmail.com](mailto: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. **Ph: 8308257 or email [saintcolumba@eircom.net](mailto:saintcolumba@eircom.net)**