

**Reflection ....** The image of the kingdom of God that is at the centre of this Sunday's Gospel is that of a wedding feast to which guests are invited but refuse to come. I am conscious of couples who are trying to arrange, or in many cases rearrange, their wedding ceremony at the moment, to which guests have been invited but cannot come, either because of the new restrictions on the number of people who can attend or because they live in a different county to that in which the wedding ceremony is taking place. All of us are experiencing a sense of disappointment that we cannot for the time being invite parishioners to come to Mass in person. We miss not being able to gather on Sunday (and weekdays), because we know in our hearts that it is gathering together to celebrate Eucharist that builds and sustains community. We managed during the initial lockdown in March-June with following Mass on the webcam or on RTE, but since early July when we started celebrating Mass in public again, people were gradually returning to Mass. Now it feels like a step backwards again. However, there are two perspectives that can help us. One is to remember that we are accepting this privation as an act of love and solidarity with those who may be infected with the coronavirus and with frontline workers. This is our effort to keep the numbers of infected people down. Secondly, as St. Paul points out so eloquently in the Second Reading, being temporarily deprived of the Eucharist can increase our hunger for it, our appreciation of its central place at the heart of our faith and of our lives: 'I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength.' At a practical level, this is an opportunity for us to live community by making a point of keeping in touch with the people we are no longer able to meet on a daily basis, and who may be living alone. Lift the phone or drop a line. It's simple but makes such a difference.

**Fr Richard Sheehy**

#### Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sat.	10th	6.00pm	Mary Sorohan (A) Bill Ward (A) John Leogue (A) Seamus Heslin (A)
Sun.	11th	11.00am	
Mon.	12th	10.30am	
Tue.	13th	10.30am	
Wed.	14th	10.30am	Doris O'Sullivan (1st A)
Thur.	15th	10.30am	The Cowan Family (A)
Fri.	16th	10.30am	
Sat.	17th	6.00pm	Paddy McGreevy (1st A)
Sun.	18th	11.00am	

Thank you for your contribution to the parish **FAMILY OFFERING** collection. This is received in weekly envelopes and by Standing Orders.

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)

# PARISH

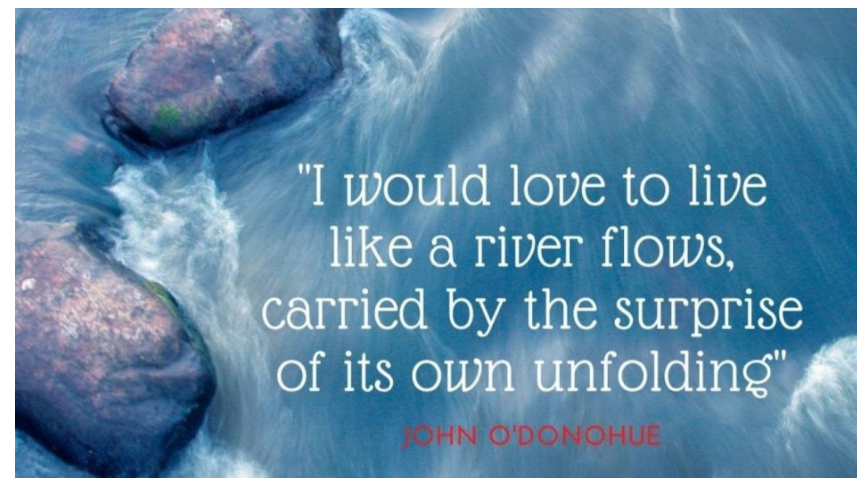


# LINK

Issue No 27/39

Parish of St. Columba

11th October 2020



**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.

**The following are the current Mass times available  
in the Glasnevin Grouping of Parish  
AVAILABLE ON WEBCAM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Church	Vigil:	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Iona Road	18.00	11.00	10.30	****	10.30	10.30	10.30	****
St Alphonsus	****	9.30	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.45	9.30
Glasnevin	18.30	12.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	****	10.00	10.00
Ballygall	18.30	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Drumcondra	18.00	10.30	****	10.00	****	10.00	****	****
Ballymun Rd.	****	12:00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	****	10.00

**The website for each of the churches webcam is the following**

Iona Rd. webcam ([www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie))  
 Monastery of St Alphonsus webcam ([www.rednuns.com](http://www.rednuns.com))  
 Our Lady of Victories Ballymun Rd webcam ([www.olv.ie](http://www.olv.ie))  
 Our Lady of Dolour's Glasnevin webcam ([www.glasnevinparish.ie](http://www.glasnevinparish.ie))  
 Out Mother of Divine Grace Ballygall webcam ([www.ballygallparish.ie](http://www.ballygallparish.ie))

**World Mission Sunday - Weekend of 18 October, 2020**

This year World Mission Sunday will take place on the weekend of Sunday 18 October. World Mission Sunday is helping communities to build schools, clinics, parish halls and Churches for marginalised communities and missionaries in our church family in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It provides missionary programmes that protect and care for children's wellbeing by offering safe shelter, healthcare, education and hope for the future and it is vital to give generously to this special collection as the pandemic has brought about even more challenges in many war-torn countries but also these crises will remain thereafter. To enhance World Mission Sunday celebrations World Mission Ireland have prepared a [Mission Month Pack](https://www.wmi.ie/mission-month-pack?mc_cid=975d669df2&mc_cid=343b45c9a9). These resources are designed to help individuals, parishes and communities celebrate not just World Mission Sunday, but the entire month of October. Download from: [https://www.wmi.ie/mission-month-pack?mc\\_cid=975d669df2&mc\\_cid=343b45c9a9](https://www.wmi.ie/mission-month-pack?mc_cid=975d669df2&mc_cid=343b45c9a9) All return donations to World Missions Sunday Office of the Holy Father's Universal Solidarity Fund, 64 Lwr. Rathmines Road, Dublin D06 N2H1. Further information email: [info@wmi.ie](mailto:info@wmi.ie) or [www.wmi.ie](http://www.wmi.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 [ionaroadparish@gmail.com](mailto:ionaroadparish@gmail.com)

**COVID-19 Support Line for Older People**

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary.

The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

**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.

There is 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.

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 course advertised below is being presented by Sr. Therese Fitzgerald and the Sisters of Sion, who specialise in the Old Testament and in dialogue with the Jewish faith. Sr. Therese has led a number of very successful and informative Scripture study sessions in Our Lady of Dolours parish over the past few years. Contact Sr. Therese directly if you are interested in taking part.

**Invitation from the Sisters of Sion**

If you would like to enhance your relationship with God and with others, you may find this invitation is for you. We are offering an opportunity to:

- Notice how God's Word nourishes your life.
- Consider how you find meaning and purpose both in the Bible and in your own life.
- Build up your own skills in how to read Biblical texts and enhance your understanding of them.

To do this we will begin by reading and exploring the Biblical book of the Prophet Jeremiah. This will also allow us to increase our general understanding of the Prophetic Writings in the Bible. The following are some of the themes we will be developing as we read the book:

**Being Transformed and Finding Freedom in God's Word**  
**Enabling Connection and Developing Acceptance**  
**Nourishing our Relationships with God, Self, Others and Creation**  
**Together Building Community**

This programme is free of charge and will be through Zoom.

Further information about dates and times will be made available once we know interest levels. Provisionally, this will start on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm for 10 weeks.

As this opportunity is about deepening our appreciation of the Word of God in our lives, it is suitable for all levels of familiarity with the Bible and none.

If you are interested, then please let Sr Thérèse know ASAP at this email address: [theresefitzgerald7@gmail.com](mailto:theresefitzgerald7@gmail.com)