

Reflection...

This Sunday is Mission Sunday. As a school boy, I remember our class spent a day's retreat at Kimmage manor, where we encountered a number of young men training to work as Holy Spirit missionaries in various parts of Africa. That is our traditional image of mission, and the reputation of Irish women and men who have gone out to work for mission and development all over the world is second to none. But mission is simply the call of every baptised person to live the Good News of Jesus Christ in such a way that it attracts others. As a parish we find ourselves in this current new reality where much of our usual outreach, whether preparing for and celebrating sacraments, visiting schools, and visiting parishioners at home or in hospital, is severely curtailed. We are having to find new and creative ways to minister. Thanks to technology, we can broadcast Mass from our church via the webcam, publish our weekly parish newsletter on our website (www.ionaroadparish.ie) and continue to hold parish meetings and link in with school services via Zoom. However, we are particularly conscious of those parishioners who don't have access to the internet and therefore cannot access any of these services. We encourage parishioners to be aware of any neighbour who may be living alone and feeling isolated at this time. Over the next few weeks, we may not be able to visit a neighbour or fellow parishioner in their home, but we can always lift the phone or drop a card or note through a letterbox. It can make such a difference! Let us take encouragement from the words of St. Paul in today's Second Reading: 'We know, brothers and sisters, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction'.

Fr Richard Sheehy

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.



Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sat. 17th	6.00pm	Paddy McGreevy (1st A)
Sat. 24th	6.00pm	Tom Giblin (1st A) and pray for Dolores Giblin
Sun. 25th	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 and email your comments, good news stories and special parish events to info@ionaroadparish.ie

PARISH

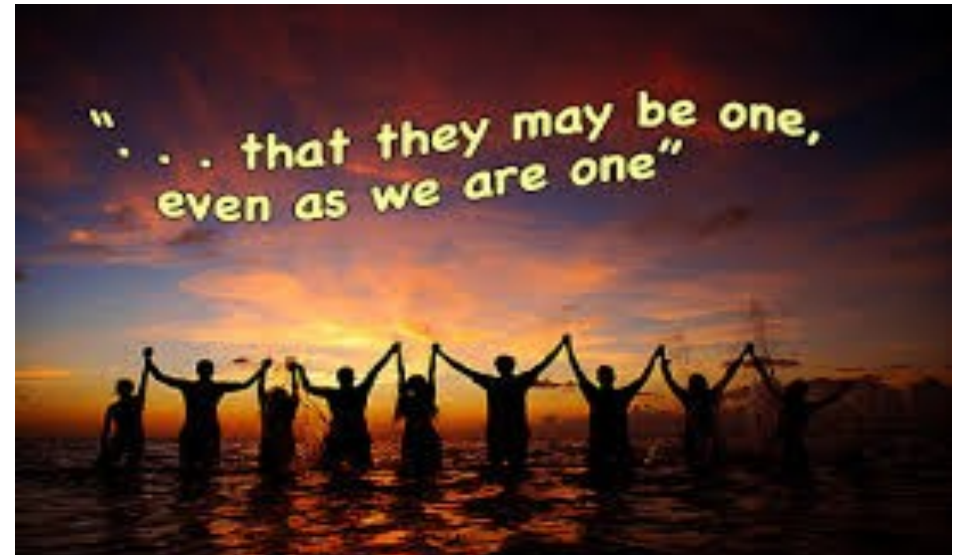


LINK

Issue No 27/40

Parish of St. Columba

18th October 2020



IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY,
FOCUS ON WHAT YOU CAN CONTROL

Mental Health
Ireland

www.mentalhealthireland.ie



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

From this Sunday 18th October there will be one Mass celebrated on Sunday in Our Lady of Dolours church, Glasnevin at 11.00am. Mass on Sunday evening 18.30 will resume when parishioners are able to attend Mass again in person.

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	****	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

A (Zoom) meeting of the **Glasnevin Grouping Committee** will take place on Tuesday 20th October at 8.00pm.

The website for each of the churches webcam is the following

Iona Rd. webcam (www.ionaroadparish.ie)

Monastery of St Alphonsus webcam (www.rednuns.com)

Our Lady of Victories Ballymun Rd webcam (www.olv.ie)

Our Lady of Dolour's Glasnevin webcam (www.glasnevinparish.ie)

Out Mother of Divine Grace Ballygall webcam (www.ballygallparish.ie)

Volunteer Drivers - Irish Cancer Society is looking for volunteers to drive patients to and from their chemotherapy treatments. Drivers with a free weekday availability and who can commit to driving twice a month. Please email Gail at gflinter@irishcancer.ie or call 01 2310 566 for an application form. Due to the impact of the Coronavirus we are seeking drivers under the age of 70 years.

Each **Thursday** at a weekly Zoom meeting 7.30pm-8.15pm we read and discuss the Gospel for the following Sunday. Anyone wishing to participate is asked to contact the parish office or email Fr. Richard (richardesheehy@gmail.com) for the meeting ID and password.

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. Ph: 8308257 or email ionaroadparish@gmail.com

'Care at the End of Life' - Bishops Statement

Human dignity is inherent in every person from the first moment of his or her existence. Even under the most challenging circumstances, we never lose that inherent dignity, which brings a unique quality and meaning to everything we do and are.

Hospice - In the challenging context of terminal illness, the dignity of the person is affirmed in Hospice Care. From simple beginnings at Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross, Dublin, in 1879, and with huge public support, the provision of hospice care has spread to every corner of Ireland. It is based on the principle that "Life is affirmed and dying is regarded as a normal process. Death is neither hastened nor postponed. Pain and other distressing symptoms are relieved." These principles have inspired people of every religious tradition in providing a unique kind of care at the end of life, which is not just about pain management, but about presence and communication and, most of all, about remaining close to people for whom further medical treatment is futile.

A Community of Compassion and Care - Care at the end of life has a lot to do with relationships. The support of family members, friends and trusted healthcare professionals, including chaplains who offer pastoral and sacramental care, can make an enormous difference. Together they form a community of compassion and care. For a Christian, death is not a hopeless adventure; it is the door of life that opens to eternity.

Palliative Care - Telling the truth with love is an important aspect of our respect for human dignity. Palliative care, as well as upholding absolute respect for human life, acknowledges and accepts the reality of approaching death. It is about helping people to live as fully as possible in the time that is left to them, until death comes naturally. Our own pastoral experience has shown us that, in the final days and weeks of terminal illness and people often enter into a deeper relationship with illness, the life experience of those who are dying can be greatly enhanced with the assistance of integrated palliative care. Frequently, relationships are healed, unresolved personal issues are worked through. We note that many palliative care experts have expressed similar views.

The Relief of Pain - The use of pain relief, in order to maintain and enhance the quality of life is an important aspect of palliative care. Palliative care should not be confused with euthanasia or assisted suicide, which involves the specific intention to end a human life. This is always gravely sinful.

Assisted suicide - Is often presented as something that would be rare and exceptional. Once assisted suicide is accepted in principle, it becomes very difficult to draw a line. Many countries, which began by legalising assisted suicide on a very limited basis, have moved on to widen significantly the scope of that legislation.

At the Service of Life - We want to say very clearly that there is no such thing as a life without value. We hope to be a voice for those who, in a time of vulnerability, feel that they have no voice. We ask people to consider the manner in which assisted suicide and euthanasia undermines the whole ethos of healthcare. Doctors and nurses are called to be advocates for life and should never be required to assist in any way in the deliberate ending of life. We invite you to join us in prayer for those who, at this time, are coming to terms with a diagnosis of terminal illness, that they may have the blessing of a community of compassion and care.

Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference