

Reflection:

It's just over fifty days since we entered this particular lockdown. We are conscious of time as never before, wondering how many days till children can go back to school, till cafes and shops reopen, and we can start going to Mass again. The forty days of Lent recall the forty days Jesus spends in the wilderness at the start of his public ministry, the forty days of the biblical flood, and the forty years Moses led his people through the Sinai desert in search of the Promised Land. Time is not something to be wished away but to be lived as fully and generously as we can in the particular circumstances we find ourselves. This season of Lent holds both challenge and opportunity for us. Jesus is propelled into the wilderness by the Spirit, but it is Satan he encounters there. Whenever the Spirit inspires us to create space to listen and respond to the deepest desires of our heart, our hunger for meaning, for purpose, for God, to give our lives to others, another spirit will always seek to distract us away. Let's embrace this Lent as an opportunity to open ourselves anew to the mystery of God's presence and action in our lives and to recognise the distractions for what they are. *'Believe the Good News'*.

Fr. Richard

Accord, the diocesan agency which supports marriage and the family, would like us to thank all those who supported their annual collection last weekend. Parishioners can still donate in the following ways

Online at www.accorddublin.ie where you will find a DONATE button.

By post to Accord Dublin, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe Rd

By bank transfer to ACCORD Dublin Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG, Bank of Ireland, 88 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2.

IBAN: IE27 BOFI 9001 1357 0742 03; BIC:BOFIE2D.



RTÉ air Mass every weekday at 10.30am from St Eunan's and St Columba's Cathedral, Letterkenny, on **RTÉ News Now** which can be accessed on Saor View (Channel 21), Sky (521), Virgin Media (200), Eir (517) as well as via the RTÉ Player, the RTÉ News Now app and via RTÉ.ie/news.

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sat.	20th	6.00pm	Robert Conlan (A) Kathleen Kelly (A)
Wed.	24th	10.30am	Brigid Prendergast (A)
Sun.	28th	11.00am	Peter Doyle 1st A

Pray for Recently deceased :
Patrick Higgins, Millmount Place
Marjorie Scannell, Chapelgate



Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to parishlink@gmail.com or dropped into the Parish Office. A contact name and phone number is required for each item.

Ph: 8308257 or email ionaroadparish@gmail.com
St. Columba's Parish website : www.ionaroadparish.ie

PARISH



LINK

Issue No 28/7

Parish of St. Columba

21st February 2021

First Sunday of Lent



Jesus is tested in the Wilderness

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news". Mark 1:12-15

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.



. We are grateful for the great generosity of parishioners in returning Christmas Offerings,

which form a significant part of the annual remuneration of the priests of the parish and of the diocese. We also thank parishioners for your contributions to the **First and Second Collections** and to the **Family Offering**. We also draw parishioners' attention to the 'Donate' button on the parish website www.ionaroadparish.ie, which some may prefer to use for their regular contributions.

Any household who is waiting for the 2021 box of envelopes to be delivered to your home please note that during this current time of lockdown we are not in a position to deliver them and we hope to get them to you as soon as it is possible.

The Glasnevin Grouping of Parishes presents:

'Living in Unsettling Times: Reflections for the Time and Season'.

A series of online reflections by Fr. Paddy Sweeney -

5 Thursdays in Lent at 7.30pm. The weekly reflections can be accessed on webcam from each of the five parishes in turn.

Thurs 25th February - Our Lady of Victories, Ballymun Road

Navigating the wilderness - dangers and possibilities

Thurs 4th March - Our Mother of Divine Grace, Ballygall: *Is God asleep?*

Thurs 11th March - Our Lady of Dolours, Glasnevin: *Living with Loss*

Thurs 18th March - St. Columba's, Iona Rd *Will we get back to normal?*

Thurs 25th March - Corpus Christi, Drumcondra *I haven't much to offer!*

Sunday and weekday Masses are accessible only on webcam, which is accessed through the front page of the Parish Website

Iona Rd. webcam (www.ionaroadparish.ie)

All Sunday and weekday Masses are recorded for later viewing.

The church remains open each day from 11.00am-3.00pm for private prayer.

The website for each of the churches in the

Glasnevin Grouping is as follows:

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)

Corpus Christi, Drumcondra (www.corpuschristidrumcondra.ie.)

LET'S LIVE LENT: BRINGING THE LENTEN GOSPELS TO LIFE

Join us for Pastoral Conversations -

5 Tuesdays starting 16th February @ 8pm

Feb 16th	Let it Go	Presented by a team from the Office for Evangelisation and the Liturgy Resource Centre. To book Email lisia.cashen@dublindiocese.ie
Feb 23rd	Would you listen to Him	
March 2nd	Songs of the Sanctuary	
March 9th	Into the Light	
March 16th	Seeds of Hope	

There are other very worthwhile initiatives for Lent, all of which can be accessed online from the Lent 2021 section of the diocesan website www.dublindiocese.ie including **Lent On Line (LOL)** - Each day of Lent, families from around the diocese, offer a two minute reflection on what Lent means to them. Posted at 8am every day.
Acts of Love for Lent—A practical suggestion for each day of Lent.

Join a weekly Zoom meeting each Thursday @7.30pm led by **Fr. Richard** to read and reflect together on the readings for the following Sunday. We meet for just 45 minutes and are always happy to welcome new participants. This may be of particular interest to Ministers of the Word or members of parish liturgy groups. Just give the parish secretary your email address, and a link to the meeting will be sent each week.

Trocaire Lenten Campaign 2021

This year Trocaire's Lenten Campaign will focus on exploring the Impact of Conflict on Families in South Sudan. This Lent, we learn more about the suffering of people who have lost their homes and loved ones to war, and how they are rebuilding their lives through love, friendship and solidarity.

Trocaire's Lenten Campaign BOXES are available at the back of the church

Aware - Support & Self Care Groups If you, or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider using the Phone In and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail. These services provide support, coping skills and information and help people who are in distress to know and feel that they are not alone in their experience. For more info about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on www.aware.ie.

Faithfest for teenagers is back!! Join us for an evening of games, music, workshop, chats and prayer. Faithfest will take place **Friday 5 March from 6:30 – 8:30pm online**. You can register online using this link: <https://forms.gle/DwKDsXCuTornHFYA8>.

For more information email: faithfest@dublindiocese.ie

God's great plan is to draw each one of us into a loving relationship with Him.

We are inviting you to take a glimpse at this love relationship as lived by Redemptoristines. If you are a single, Catholic woman, aged 25-45, and feel attracted to explore how God may be calling you to respond to His drawing and prompting in your life you are welcome to join us for our "Zoom and See".

We assure you of our prayers as you seek to discover God's plan for your life!

Sat 20th Feb 7pm — 9pm www.rednuns.com/Zoom