

Reflection

... Fr. Richard

In a letter to parishes welcoming the return to public worship this weekend for the first time since Christmas, Archbishop Dermot Farrell acknowledges that what many parishioners lamented during this time was the loss of the community dimension of our faith, and its human dimension. As he puts it: *'There is no Church without community; our humanity is at the heart of our faith. Just as the Saviour is truly human and truly divine, so the People of God need to be in communion with each other, and in communion with their Lord. We don't often reflect on these things; we don't have to. But when they're taken away almost overnight, we naturally wonder what is happening, and what is happening to us. Of course, people were grateful for the televised celebrations, as well as Masses on webcams from churches near and far..... but online Masses and spiritual Communion are only a partial reflection of our common experience of the Church, both past and present. We pray that we will see a full return to public celebration of the Eucharist and of the other sacraments at the earliest possible date'.*

Archbishop Farrell reminds us that for the time being, the Sunday obligation remains suspended. Parishioners might consider joining a weekday celebration of the Eucharist to facilitate those who can only come on Sundays.

Acknowledging that there may be a certain nervousness about our return to worship this Sunday, and that parishioners have made great sacrifices over the last fifteen months, the Archbishop appeals to all to enter into the spirit of the guidance and public health advice and to pray that all can soon return to the celebration of the Eucharist *'with a purified heart, with a renewed amazement, with an increased desire to meet the Lord, to be with him, to receive him and to bring him to our brothers and sisters with a life full of faith, love and hope'* (Letter to Bishops, Cardinal Robert Sarah).

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sat.	15th	6.00pm	Jim & Alice O'Connor & Family, May Hanrahan & Family and Rita Rocca
Sun.	16th	11.00am	James (Jim) Ward Month's Mind
Mon.	17th	10.30am	Patrick & Bridget Caine (A)
Wed.	19th	10.30am	John Prendergast & Family (A)
Fri.	21st	10.30am	Frank Toolin (Rec Dec)
Sat.	22nd	6.00pm	Sean Fanning

Please Pray for Larry Hudson of St Teresa's Rd recently deceased



Contributions for 9/5/2021:

1st & 2nd Collection €71 Family Offering €810.00

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

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Parish of St. Columba

16th May 2021



FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.'

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



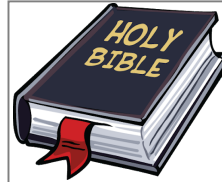
We look forward to welcoming back parishioners to Mass this weekend on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 11.00am. Also daily Mass is at 10:30am on Mon. Wed. Thurs and Fri. Since it is almost five months since we gathered in church for Sunday Mass, we would like to remind parishioners of the following guidelines: -

- The church will be divided into pods, and stewards will be on hand to count parishioners so that we can maximise the number who can attend while ensuring all safety measures are observed.
- We ask parishioners to wear a face mask while attending Mass and to sanitise your hands using one of the dispensers available as you enter the church.
- The MC will say a few words before Mass begins, again at the Offertory, and before the final hymn, to remind you of the guidelines for approaching the altar to receive Holy Communion.
- We ask you to follow the guidance of the stewards in exiting the church at the end of Mass.
- Sunday and weekday Masses will continue to be streamed on the webcam www.ionaroadparish.ie for those who choose for the moment to continue to from at home and are recorded for later viewing also.
- The church remains open each day from 11am to 3 pm for private prayer.

The website for each of the churches in the Glasnevin Grouping as follows:

Iona Rd. webcam	www.ionaroadparish.ie
Monastery of St Alphonsus webcam	www.rednuns.com
Ballymun Rd webcam	www.olv.ie
Glasnevin webcam	www.glasnevinparish.ie
Ballygall webcam	www.ballygallparish.ie
Corpus Christi, Drumcondra	www.corpuschristidrumcondra.ie

Archbishop Dermot Farrell has established a Task Force on a *Church for the Dublin Archdiocese of Tomorrow* under the title: *Building Hope*. The work of the Task Force begins with an assessment of the needs of the people of the Archdiocese emerging from COVID-19 and hopes to support parish communities to undertake a radical renewal, looking to the future with creativity. The Archbishop has asked the Task Force to present an interim report by the end of June and to conclude its work by the end of the summer.



A weekly zoom meeting to read and reflect together on the Gospel for the forthcoming Sunday continues each Friday at 7.30pm. It's ideal preparation for hearing the Gospel proclaimed on Sunday. If you would like to join in any Friday evening, just give your email address to the Parish secretary and a link to the meeting will be sent to you.

Teen Hope Connected is a weekly Youth Group. It takes place every **Wednesday 6-7pm** via Zoom. Join us for fun, exploring faith and life with other Teens through small group discussions, top class games and prayer. If you are interested please email: kirsten.mahon@dublindioocese.ie



The monthly meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place via zoom this Tuesday 18th May at 8.00pm.



Fr. Paddy is unwell at the moment and in hospital for a few days. We keep him in our prayers and hope that he is back with us soon.

An online parish resource to accompany families preparing for Confirmation has been prepared by the diocese. It is called *Walking with Families* and consists of 3 zoom sessions, each lasting thirty minutes. The sessions are based on three short videos with the following themes:

- *Strength for the Journey*
- *Gifted by the Spirit*
- *Called by Name*

The sessions are intended to stimulate faith conversation at home between parents and Confirmation candidates and complement school preparation. Training for parish volunteers in delivering the sessions begins this Monday at 5.00pm and 7.30pm.

Alone manage a national COVID-19 Support Line for Older People who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the Coronavirus. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line 0818 222 024 is open 7 days a week 8am - 8pm

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 of our services on www.aware.ie

