

Reflection

This week, as on many occasions over the past two years, we are hanging on the words of NEPHT and the government to find out what new restrictions have been imposed or indeed relaxed as we adapt to living with the coronavirus and trying to protect one another. This week at least, we are anticipating good news, and people can begin once again to plan visiting one another at home, attending sporting and cultural events, eating out and making holiday plans. The central defining thing we do as a community of faith is to gather for the celebration of Sunday Mass. A core element of that gathering is the proclamation of the readings from scripture which we believe to be, not just words from the past, but the Word of God addressed to us in our situation today. As the Letter to the Hebrews puts it, 'it cuts more finely than a two edged sword, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart'. Pope Francis has dedicated this third Sunday of the Year as 'Sunday of the Word of God', devoted to the celebration, study, and spreading of the Word of God. Each Thursday a group of us meet on zoom at 7.30pm to read and reflect together on the Gospel for the following Sunday. Through sharing on what we have heard, we discern the good news of God's Word for our lives today. The meeting lasts about 40 minutes and is open to anyone. No prior knowledge of scripture is required. If you would like to join any week, just give the parish secretary your email address, and a link will be sent to you. **Fr Richard Sheehy**



The second training session for Local Animators who will facilitate the Synodal Pathway at parish level took place this week. It is planned to have two parish gatherings in March as part of our participation in the Synodal process.

Thank you for your contribution to the parish FAMILY OFFERING collection, amounting to **€1800.00 last weekend**. This is received in weekly envelopes. An average weekly total of €544.00 is also contributed by Standing Orders.

Mass Intentions for the coming week

SAT	22nd	6.00pm	Denis Boland Junior (A) Timothy O'Leary (A)
			Tereasa Leonard (A)
THUR	27th	10.30am	Heffernan Family (A)
FRI	28th	10.30am	Mary Haugh (2ndA)

Please pray for Louise Walsh late of Iona Road and Josephine Hickey late of St Brigid's Rd. who passed away this week and all our recently deceased.

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 29/3

Parish of St. Columba

23rd January 2022

PLEASE TAKE THE LINK HOME WITH YOU



*'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor'*

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.

Parishioners and visitors are encouraged to **hand sanitise** on entering the church, to **maintain social distancing** and to **wear face masks** throughout the Mass. An MC will introduce the Mass.



There are **two** Collection moments at Mass, the first after the homily, and the second while the parish notices are being read.

We thank parishioners who have contributed so generously to Christmas Dues, which support the priests of the parish and of the diocese.

We also thank parishioners for your contributions to the **First and Second Collections** at Mass.

We have installed a *Tap and Go* machine at the back of the church which facilitates parishioners and visitors who wish to contribute to the First and Second collections but who don't have cash.

You simply tap the machine with your credit card and choose the amount you wish to contribute, which will then be divided 60/40% between the First (priests) and Second (Share – diocesan services) collections.

Contributions to the parish can be made through the 'Donate' button on the parish website: www.ionaroadparish.ie



Crosscare is working with hundreds of families and children in Dublin who struggle to get basic food supplies. It is often the months after Christmas which many people find challenging. Support our appeal to end food poverty by giving what you can online at www.crosscare.ie/donate or call 01 8360011.



Yoga for Well Being with Christina Breen @ Chroi Yoga
As the Centre is closed until 1st Feb, yoga classes are currently online only.

Please contact Christina on 086 6685787 for details.
Wednesdays: Class times – 4.00 – 5.00pm & 5.30 – 6.30pm
Single session: €15

Returning to connection with people and places, and most of all to connection with self. An embodied, mindful practice of gentle Hatha yoga.



Contact AWARE - SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS - in relation to your mental wellbeing, For more information about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on www.aware.ie

COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE
is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, call 0818 222 024.

Work will begin on Monday 24th January to extend the marble sanctuary steps, slightly relocate and extend the handrails, and lay a carpet around the altar in order to make the sanctuary area safer for celebrants and parishioners. It is estimated that the work will take between 5-6 weeks, and throughout that time the sanctuary will be off limits. A temporary altar and ambo will be placed in the body of the church, just below the sanctuary, and the required sound and power facilities will be put in place. A temporary tabernacle will be placed in the mortuary chapel to facilitate private prayer and Eucharistic adoration.

We apologise to parishioners for any inconvenience during this time and we are confident that the work will improve the safety of access to the sanctuary.



Iona Active Retirement

Join us for a cuppa and a chat in Glasnevin Cemetery on Tuesday 1st February at 11.00am.

Parking is €2 and you pay for your own refreshments.

We would welcome ideas and suggestions for days out together in the coming year.

New members Welcome

We welcome families who are preparing for the sacraments of First Communion and First Reconciliation. The Rite of Enrollment service will take place at 6.00pm Mass this Sat. A representative family from each of the schools involved will attend in person while the majority of the families will participate via webcam.

Seán McDonagh SSC
Supported by
The Association of Catholic Priests

Zoom – Jan 27th 2022 – 8.00 p.m.
As the **global climate crisis** deepens, so does the **crisis of the Irish Catholic church** intensified unexpectedly by a viral pandemic.

Convinced that parishes can play a key role in meeting Ireland's carbon reduction targets in the 21st century – and that climate concern needs to be a vital focus of the Irish church – Fr Seán McDonagh will lead a Zoom on this theme on Jan 27th, 8.00 p.m.

Click the link below to join the discussion on Jan 27th at 8.00 p.m.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83007717613?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83007717613?pwd=U3JZMnBXdnNhTXVldEoybXFjMlUxUT09)
[pwd=U3JZMnBXdnNhTXVldEoybXFjMlUxUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83007717613?pwd=U3JZMnBXdnNhTXVldEoybXFjMlUxUT09)

Meeting ID: 830 0771
7613 Passcode: 298337

Catholic Schools Week is celebrated from 23rd – 30th January.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week is 'Catholic Schools: Living Life to the Full'. For Catholic Schools Week, Fr Gareth Byrne, Diocesan Moderator & assistant to Glasnevin Grouping, will celebrate Mass on RTE 1 television on 30th Jan at 11am.