

Reflection : This week we celebrated Epiphany or Nollaig na mBan – women’s Christmas. Eastern Rite Christians celebrate Christmas this week. The 7th January is Christmas Day in Ethiopia. We think of Fr. Sintayhu, who ministered in the Glasnevin Grouping for a few years and graced us with his warmth, hospitality, faith and sense of fun. He sent us greetings for our Christmas. This week we can return the compliment.

By coincidence the BBC did a news report this week on the current humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia, as a result of civil conflict between government forces and rebels in the Tigray province, which leaves many civilians displaced and cut off from access to food and medical care. It is tempting to look away from the distressing images but we cannot.

This Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord, a feast that marks the transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary Time, where our focus turns to the public ministry of Jesus. Indeed Jesus is baptised for ministry. At prayer following his Baptism, Jesus discerns a voice in his heart telling him: ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.’ An angel delivers a similar message to Mary at the Annunciation: ‘You have won God’s favour’.

We might be inclined to think how privileged Jesus and Mary were to receive such a message. And yet that too is the meaning of our Baptism. We too are called by name and assured that we are God’s beloved and enjoy God’s favour. But we are also called to ensure that every other human being receives that message through our ministry, our compassion, our practical response to those who are suffering, particularly in places where people experience hunger and poverty.

May we not disappoint those for whom our faith creates ‘a feeling of expectancy’.

Fr Richard Sheehy

Thank you for your contribution to the parish FAMILY OFFERING collection, amounting to **€226.00 last weekend**. This is received in weekly envelopes. An average weekly total of €544.00 is also contributed by Standing Orders.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to acknowledge receipt of anonymous donations of €100x 3 / €50 / €20 / €10. **Many Thanks**

Mass Intentions for the coming week

SAT	8th	6.00pm	Graham Fitzpatrick (A) Kieran & Ella O'Toole (A) Brenda O'Byrne (A) Joan & Ned Boardman (A)
SUN	9th	11.00am	John Gavin (1st A)
MON	10th	10.30am	Des Rochford (1stA)
WED	12th	10.30am	Martin Browne (A)

Please pray for Colette Hudson of St Teresa'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 29/1

Parish of St. Columba

9 January 2022

PLEASE TAKE THE LINK HOME WITH YOU

**THIS IS MY SON
THE BELOVED,
LISTEN TO HIM**



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.

thank you

A huge thank you to our sacristy and parish office team, and to our flower society for all their work in preparing our church for Christmas!

A big thank you as well to our stewards, and to all our ministers and volunteers who have assisted in so many ways throughout the past year. It is deeply appreciated.

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

TAP & GO



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

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.

The monthly meeting of the **Glasnevin Grouping Committee** will take place via zoom on Tuesday 11th January at 7.00pm.

Each Thursday a group of us meet on zoom at 7.30pm to read and reflect together on the Gospel for the following Sunday. We call it *Lectio Divina*. 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.

We will be getting some work done shortly to extend the **sanctuary steps** to make the altar area safer.

It is estimated that the work will take between 3-4 weeks, and throughout that time the sanctuary will be off limits. During that time, we will erect a temporary altar and ambo in the body of the church, just below the sanctuary, and will ensure the required sound and power facilities.

We apologise in advance to parishioners for any inconvenience during this time and are confident that it will improve safety for all around the sanctuary.

MARGARET AYLWARD CENTRE FOR FAITH AND DIALOGUE
Yoga For Well-Being with Christina Breen

Wednesday January 12 Class times – 4.00 – 5.00pm & 5.30 – 6.30pm

Single session: €15.00 Some spaces still available

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

Must bring own mat & supports, mats will be well spaced for the duration of the class. The events room has an effective ventilation system, as well as access to fresh air and will be cleaned before and after each class with naturally anti-bacterial products.

Our Yoga Teacher Christina Breen, is fully qualified in Hatha Yoga, and this is her tenth year teaching. Her training in yoga education is continuous. Her approach is friendly, sensitive, embodied and professional. She has almost completed her training in Somatic Movement Education that she has been doing online over the last year. She holds training with the IHF in loss & grief, as well as being a fully qualified Funeral Celebrant. Contact: www.margaretaylwardcentre.ie for further details.

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.

