

How often must I forgive?

If we step back from our daily struggles we can see that to hold grudges is a waste of energy and time. Life is short and eternity is....for ever. Neighbours who have fallen out often end up being buried a short distance from one another in the same cemetery. We are well able to get on with "like-minded" people. Families, businesses, clubs, communities and so on thrive when people are pulling together. However as time evolves differences of opinions and difficulties arise. Sometimes these differences become so great that the only way forward is to go separate ways. Splits in religion, in families etc. are common-place. No one is exempt.

The ability and willingness to forgive is the measure of the depth of our Christianity. In order to be able to forgive we must have experienced forgiveness ourselves. The sacrament of penance when we experience the Divine mercy and forgiveness is often the start of our journey of being able to forgive others. When we pray the Our Father we pray the words: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Also in the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi we are reminded that, "It is in pardoning that we are pardoned".

Can we let those words sink into our hearts and be able to forgive as we are forgiven?

Fr Joseph Ryan

Tap and Go machine at the back of the church facilitates parishioners and visitors who wish to contribute to the First and Second collections but who don't carry cash.

A **second Tap and Go** device has been installed for the benefit of receiving parish contributions. Contributions to the parish can also be made through the 'Donate' button on the parish website www.ionaroadparish.ie

Thank you for your contribution to the parish **FAMILY OFFERING** collection, amounting to **€342.00 last weekend**, This is received in weekly envelopes.

An average weekly total of €503.00 is also contributed by Standing Orders.

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sept	SAT	16th	6.00pm	Pat O'Donnell (A) Aidan McEvoy (A) Nuala & Joseph Logue (A)
Sept	MON	18th	10.30am	Margaret O'Brien (Month's Mind)
Sept	SAT	23rd	6.00pm	Deceased Members of the Bradshaw & Whelan Family (A)



Please pray for all 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 30/ 31

Parish of St. Columba

17th September 2023



Peter went up to Jesus and said,
'Lord, how often must I forgive my
brother if he wrongs me?
As often as seven times?'
Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell
you, but seventy-seven times'.

Matthew 18:21-35

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.



OUR PARISH SHOP is open on Sunday mornings.

It is a cash based system.

Lots of lovely cards and small gifts are available



The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1st September to 4th October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the gift and beauty of God's creation and encourages initiatives to protect our Common Home. For further

information and resources go to www.catholicbishops.ie/laudato-si/



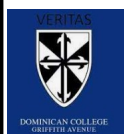
The Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership chair based exercise programme will continue this week on Monday, 18th September, from 11am to 12 noon in the quietness of the side aisle of St Columba's Church. There is no charge and the exercises are suitable for older adults. Our coach will be our parishioner, Pauline Pierce.



Thank you to all those who contributed to our St Vincent De Paul collection last weekend. A total of €620 was donated. Your support is very much appreciated.

Student accommodation needed

Anyone interested in renting a room to a DCU student from the end of September please contact Eillen at 087 293 1327



Dominican College, secondary school Dublin 9 require cleaners. 30 Hours / week: Mon - Friday 1pm - 6pm If you are interested please email CV to admin@dominican-college.com



Christian Meditation will take place in the Monastery of St. Alphonsus on Wednesday, 20th of Sept. at 7.30 pm. All those who enjoy silent prayer are welcome to attend.



Parish Social Media

Please follow, like and share.

Facebook: Iona Road Parish

Instagram: ionaroadparish

ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Céilí dancing every Monday in Clareville centre
3.30pm – 4.30pm

Thai Chi classes in Margaret Alyward Centre
Wed 20th Sept for 6 weeks €10 per class.

Lectio Divina Thur. 21st Sept at 10am

Game of 25 Thur. 12-1.30 Botanic Flats.

Mon	2 –4pm	Bridge
Tues	2 - 4.30pm	Bingo & Cards
Thur	11-12 noon	Bible Group
Fri	11- 12.15	Writers Group

Trip to Gleneagle Hotel Killarney

15th –18th Oct. 4 nights b&b and evening meal

With daily activities and nightly entertainment . €379 pp sharing or €479 single.

Please contact Clare at 087 2192640 asap to book your place.

Family and friends are welcome too.



This weekend **September 16th and 17th**, Crosscare will hold its **Annual Appeal for Homeless Prevention Services**. This will replace the Share collection at all

Masses. As well as providing residential homeless services, Crosscare is working with hundreds of families and individuals who are at risk of losing their existing accommodation. Please support the Crosscare collection if you can next weekend at all Masses or you can donate online at www.crosscare.ie.

This year's **Safeguarding Sunday** will take place on September 24th.

2023 marks the twentieth anniversary of the formation of the diocesan **Child Safeguarding & Protection Service** and consequently the theme of the occasion is very much "reflection". We reflect on the journey that all of us have been on over the last twenty years, especially the victims of abuse in our Church. It is also a time to reflect on the ongoing commitment by all in our parishes to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults. A lot has been achieved; however, this work is never done. The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults in our diocese is central to the Gospel values that we embrace on a daily basis.