

World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father's annual appeal for spiritual and financial support so that the life-giving work of overseas mission and missionaries can continue. It always falls on the second last Sunday in October, (this weekend) and like the Good Friday collection for the Holy Land and Peter's Pence, it is one of three yearly universal Church collections.

World Mission Sunday collections take place in every single parish where the Church is present. This includes not only Ireland and Europe, but also in poorer parishes in developing countries. It is a moment of universal solidarity when each member of the Church family, regardless of location or background, play their part in supporting each other. This is what makes it such a special celebration.

The needs of overseas dioceses vary greatly. Anything from a motorbike so a priest can celebrate Mass in a remote village, to a community hall to allow people to gather and celebrate in safety. Or more urgently, vaccinations and medicines to protect the vulnerable.

Your support is greatly appreciated either through the second collection this weekend or by placing your donation in the envelopes available at the tables in the church and returning them to the parish office during the week. You can also use the Tap and Go machine at the back of the church.

In Ireland, Missio Ireland is responsible for coordinating World Mission Sunday. For more details see www.missio.ie.

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.

The **second Tap and Go** device is 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 **€203.00 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

Oct	SAT	21st	10.30am	Paddy McGreevy (A) Rita Rocca (A)
Oct	MON	30th	10.30am	Mass in the Monastery @11am

Please pray for **Gussie Butler Drumcondra Rd** recently deceased and all our recently deceased



Parish Social Media Please follow, like and share.

Facebook: Iona Road Parish Instagram: ionaroadparish



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/ 36

Parish of St. Columba

22nd October 2023



They handed him a denarius and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

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.

Reflection for Sunday 22 October 2023

29th Sunday Ordinary Time

Isaiah 45:1,4-6. 1 Thess 1:1-5. Matt. 22:15-21



As we head into the fourth week of the Universal Synod in Rome, the readings today remind us to affirm the faith we have been given, and to remember that it is from this faith, that we receive the love and hope that we need to be Christians in the world today. It's a world that is often very challenging to us and even sometimes proves unwelcoming to any person of faith.

A life-giving community of faith is described very beautifully by Paul in his first letter to the Thessalonians. Paul expresses his satisfaction that faith, hope and love are at work in this community. He places its members among those called and chosen by God. He affirms them in their faith as he notes that the Gospel has not been received by them as mere words, but has made a strong and real impact on their lives through the power of the Holy Spirit and through their own firm conviction. As a result, their faith is alive, demonstrated through loving actions. They are an inspiration to Christians elsewhere because of their perseverance and hope in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are also reminded in the first reading from the prophet Isaiah that God has called each one of us by name. God calls each one of us, because God loves each one of us equally, and each one of us is called to play a unique part in God's plan for humanity and all his creation. The Thessalonian community reflects the experience of Catholic communities around the world today, who are living out their faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with love and hope.

The questions that are being addressed in the Synod are an expression of the richness of the process from which they were drawn. That process, which we were all invited to be part of, gathered the rich and varied experiences of each of faith communities around the world. And the Document synthesising the insights from around the world tells us that "the questions bear the imprint of the particular names and faces of those who took part, and they bear witness to the faith experience of the People of God and thus reveal the reality of a transcendent experience." From this point of view, they indicate a horizon towards which we are invited to travel with confidence, deepening the synodal practice of the Church

The synodal journey that we are all on has shown individuals, parishes and dioceses that their experience is needed in the Church. We all have a part to play in finding the best way forward in carrying out God's plan for the Church in the world today. Yes, there are challenges; yes, we know there are even conflicting views within the Church itself, but the power of the Spirit is there, just as it was for the people of Thessalonica in the early Church. The Synod invites us to travel towards that horizon of the future with confidence by deepening the synodal practice of the Church. In this we are led by the power of the Spirit and by the firm conviction of the People of God. Pope Francis often encourages us not to be afraid of the Holy Spirit. In fact, he tells us that with the Holy Spirit, faith is life, the love of the Lord conquers us, and hope is reborn. We pray for these gifts of faith, hope and love for our Church as we continue the synodal journey next week.

Please pray for the Synod!

Prayer resources and more at dublindiocese.ie/synod2023

OUR PARISH SHOP is open on Sunday mornings. It is a cash based system. Lots of lovely cards and small gifts

ACTIVE RETIREMENT

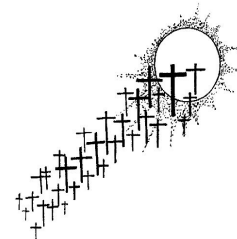
Mon 23rd	11-12	Chair Exercises * No charge (In the Church)
Mon 23rd	2-4pm	Bridge (Annex) . 3- 4.30 Ceilí dancing in Clareville
Tue 24th	2-4pm	Bingo and Cards
Wed 25th	2-3pm	Thai Chi classes in Margaret Alyward Centre €10 per class
Wed 25th	2-3pm	Aqua Aerobics €3 per class Finglas Swimming pool
Thur 26th	10am	Lectio Divina (in the church) Bible Group (Annex) 11am
Fri 27th	11-12.15	Writers Group (Annex)

Active Retirement Membership Fee. Please give €15 to Marjorie Chawke at your earliest convenience

*The Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership chair based exercise programme will continue this week on Monday, 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.



St. Vincent de Paul Collection last weekend amounted to €980. Many Thanks



November is known as the month of the Holy Souls. A time when we remember our beloved dead with special affection. Each year, here in St. Columba's Church, we remember parishioners who have died over the past twelve months at a special Mass. This year it takes place on **Thursday 2nd November at 7.30pm**, which is also All Souls' Day. Anyone who has been bereaved in the past year is most welcome to attend.

Come on in....
Monday 23rd of October
Monastery of
St Alphonsus
@ 8.00pm
You are welcome
to join our reflection
on the theme of
inclusion in our church
Music & Poetry led by the
Dublin Diocesan
Music Group

TALKS ON THE MYSTICS

Gardiner Street Parish would like to invite you to join us for Talks on the Mystics. This is a series of seven talks by Fr Brendan Comerford SJ on seven different Christian mystics. Learn about their intimate experiences of God and their growth in the Christian life. Sat mornings from Nov 4 to Dec 16, 10am to 12.15pm, in the John Sullivan Room. No registration needed. Simply come and be inspired by the lives of St Catherine of Siena, Julian of Norwich, St Teresa of Avila, St John of the Cross, St Pierre Favre, St Edith Stein and Pope St John XXIII. Listen to Fr Brendan introducing the Talks on the Mystics: <https://youtu.be/vwMxxuZ0Gck/>.