

Happy 4th week of Advent!



Young Adult Camino 2024

We are delighted to launch our Young Adult trip to the Camino June 2024. Completing the last 110km of the Camino from Sarria to Santiago, this is a pilgrimage not to miss! Places are limited .

If you wish to book, please fill out the form in the link: <https://forms.office.com/e/1GBviSd72R/>. All queries can be sent to natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie.

Monastery of St. Alphonsus Christian Meditation Wednesday, 27th December 2023 7.30 pm

Thank you for helping the **CROSSCARE CHRISTMAS FOOD POVERTY APEAL** at this challenging time for many families and individuals. This year, they have worked with almost 1,000 families and their children, not just giving them essential food and supplies but advising them and guiding them out of food poverty in the long term, giving them a hand up, not just a handout. You can donate online at www.crosscare.ie, call 01 8360011, or send a cheque or postal order to Crosscare Christmas Appeal, 2 St Mary's Place rth, D07 Y768.

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 **€1343.00 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

Dec	SAT	23rd	6.00pm	Thomas Tallon (A) Caroline Tallon (A) Mafra McGrann (A) May O'Rourke
Dec	SAT	30th	6.00pm	John Ruane (Month's Mind)
Dec	SUN	31st	11.00am	Paddy Cullen (Month's Mind)



Please pray for **John Boyle, Cliftonville Road** and **Herman Desch, Carlingford Road** recently deceased 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 30/ 45

Parish of St. Columba

25 December 2023

Joy to the World The Lord has come!



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.

Christmas Greetings from the Moderator

The season of Advent has come and gone very quickly this year with Christmas day falling on the Monday after the 4th Sunday of Advent. The time for last minute shopping has passed us by, decorations in the church are all up and the music of the Christmas Carols is wafting through the roof once more.

This has been a whirlwind of a year for me being here in Iona Road and Ballygall as well as being the moderator of the 5 parishes grouped together. Trying to get to know names and even recognising faces has been a difficult task.. People and their life story seems to elude me. It has been wonderful to see the Christian community at work for baptisms and funerals and other special moments in the lives of the people of this parish. The care and support given by so many of yourselves to neighbours, both known and unknown is something for which I am so grateful.

Throughout the year we all have fond memories of life in the parish. Joyful gatherings for First Holy communion and Confirmation, Weddings and Baptisms bring a smile to me as I reflect back on some events. The Summer fete where all were made welcome, the wise men making their way up through the church journeying to witness the nativity of our Saviour, Café Columba reminding us of the social nature of our community blending the human with the divine. The staff and volunteers in the church, sacristy and office who have been so obliging over the year. People who share their gifts in the life of the church. Ministers of the Word and Eucharist, funeral ministry, baptism helpers, choir members, stewards, flower & altar society, cleaners, St Vincent de Paul, members of the PPC and Finance Committee, counters, helpers with our altar servers and other children activities. As I write I know that there may be other categories that I have omitted but on behalf of Frs Paddy, Gareth and myself I want to thank you for your support to the life and community of St. Columba's parish making it a wonderful parish to be part of.

Fr Joseph Ryan

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

The death took place on 20th December of Sr. Benignus (Myra) McDonagh. Myra, who was in her 95th year, was the eldest of the six children,- Myra, Paddy, Kathleen, Mona, Frank and Peggy - of Frank and May McDonagh of 86 Hollybank Road. At the age of 17 she entered the Holy Faith Order and spent many years as a teacher in Rosbercon, New Ross, before taking over the care of St. Brigid's Orphanage. A talented musician, she was for 37 years organist at the Augustinian Church in John's Lane.

Please follow, like and share our Parish Social Media
Facebook: Iona Road Parish Instagram: ionaroadparish



Christmas Timetable 2023

Saturday Vigil 23th December	6.00pm
Sunday 24th December (4th Sunday of Advent)	11.00am
Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December	
Family Mass for Christmas	6.00pm
Christmas Night Mass	9.00pm
Monday 25th December	
Christmas Day Mass	11.00am

Tuesday 26th December (St Stephen's Day)	
As a partnership of parishes a special combined Mass will take place in Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun Road at 11.00am	
Tuesday—Friday 26th-29th December	
Mass in the Monastery of St. Alphonsus	11.00am

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph:	
Saturday 30th December Vigil	6.00pm
Sunday, 31st December	11.00am

Monday 1st January Mary, Mother of God—As a partnership of parishes a special combined Mass will take place in Corpus Christi Church, Drumcondra at 11.00am	
Saturday 6th January	
The Epiphany of The Lord: Mass	11.00am

Christmas/NewYear 2023/24 Mass Timetable in the Monastery of St Alphonsus

Sun 24th Christmas eve Morning	9.30am
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass	8.00pm
Monday 25 December Christmas Day	9.30am
Tue-Fri	11.00am - Sat 9.30am
Sun 31st Dec New Year Eve	9.30am
Monday 1st Jan 2024	11.00am
The Church will NOT be open to the public in the Afternoon	
On Tue 2nd Jan 2024 we resume normal schedule	



Many thanks to all who helped decorate our crib with donations of Poinsettias

SHARE YOUR CRIB ON SOCIAL MEDIA During their Winter General Meeting in Maynooth last week, the Bishops of Ireland offered prayers of thanksgiving as 2023 marks the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi constructing the first Christmas crèche in a cave in Greccio, Italy. To mark this special anniversary in our faith history, bishops invite everyone to share a picture, or video, of their crib whether it is at home or in the workplace, along with a message. As every crib has its own story, sharing Christmas memories of the crib would provide inspiration to many people during this season of goodwill and celebration for Christian families. To help spread the spirit of Christmas, why don't you tag us in your crib post on Facebook at Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference; Instagram at @catholicbishops; and X/Twitter at @CatholicNewsIRL. The bishops reiterated Pope Francis's words that a key message of the Nativity scene is that the mystery of Christmas 'loves to hide within what is infinitely small ... [the Nativity] is like a living Gospel overflowing from the pages of Holy Scripture'.

