

## Second Sunday of Lent—Mark 9:2-10

The Church has chosen the Transfiguration of Our Lord as a suitable Gospel reading for the second Sunday of Lent. As a foretaste of Our Lord's Resurrection, the glory of the Transfiguration sustains us in the hardship and trials of the penitential season and keeps our focus on the goal of our Lenten observances: to be on the mountaintop with Jesus, to see the divine light shining from His face and to experience the joy of God's glory. This is our goal during Lent and we will soon say, when we reach the glory of Easter, "it is wonderful for us to be here". The sacrifices of Lent will be worth it. Peter, James and John were taken away by Jesus, up a high mountain, where they could be alone by themselves. This temporary detachment from the world, from the comforts and routines of life, pays rich dividends. Time spent in prayer, with our phones switched off, is time well spent.

# PARISH



# LINK

Issue No 31/ 8

Parish of St. Columba

25th February 2024

The ACCORD Annual Collection amounted to €695 Last weekend. Many Thanks

**Tap and Go machines** 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](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)

Thank you for your contribution to the parish **FAMILY OFFERING** collection, amounting to **€979 .00**. 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

Feb	SAT	24	6.00pm	Confirmation Mass Philip Cahill (A) Marjorie Scannell (A) Liam Fox (A) Joan Boardman Callahan (Month's Mind) Margaret Shorthall (A)
Feb	SUN	25	11.00am	Paddy O'Donohoe (1stA) & Matthew O'Donohoe (Rec dec)
Mar	SAT	2	6.00pm	Mary & Pat Dempsey (A)
Mar	SUN	3	11.00am	Betty McQuillan (Month's Mind)



Please pray for all our recently deceased.

Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to [parishlink@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:ionaroadparish@gmail.com)

St. Columba's Parish website : [www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)



**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.**




## Just LENT 2

In the first reading this Sunday we hear about the sacrifice of Abraham. When we look at the life of Abraham it is clear he made many sacrifices in his life. He wandered in the desert for many years trying to find a home. The Gospel refers to Peter suggesting that three tents are set up. Tents are symbolic of God's permanent presence among us, but today our towns and cities have people sheltering in tents because they are homeless. We as a Christian community


are challenged to help them find a safe, permanent home, where they can truly feel God's permanent protecting presence. There is no social or moral justification for homelessness, but we can find solace and meaning in the Incarnation... The Son of God came into this world as a homeless person... The Son of God knew what it was to start life without a roof over his head." "We can find no social or moral justification, no justification whatsoever, for lack of housing. There are many unjust situations, but we know that God is suffering with us, experiencing them at our side. He does not abandon us."

“ 2015 visit to Catholic Charities in Washington D.C.”Pope Francis

- SEE** What impact is homelessness having on your family?  
**DISCERN** How can our households and parishes respond practically to the homelessness crisis?  
**ACT** What homelessness projects could you get involved with?



**ALONE** in Action  
 Our Vision is an Ireland where older people can age happily and securely at home and are strongly connected to their local communities.  
 We work with older people, including those who are lonely, isolated, living in poverty, or are facing other difficulties and support them to age safely and independently at home.  
 We help with coordinating services and helping older people address any challenges they face and assist with finding solutions. We also provide Visitation Support & Befriending & Telephone Support & Befriending.  
**NATIONAL SUPPORT & REFERRAL LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE 0818 222 024**  
 If you are in need of advice, support or information, please call our National Support and Referral Line, seven days a week from 8am – 8pm.

<p><b>Adoration</b> Our Lady of Victories Church                  Every Mon during Lent from 12.00pm to 9.00pm                  We hope you will take this opportunity to spend some quiet time in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit <a href="http://www.familycarers.ie">www.familycarers.ie</a>.</p> 
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<p><b>OUR PARISH SHOP</b> is open on Sunday mornings.                  It is a cash based system. Lots of lovely cards and small gifts.</p>	
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Please follow, like and share our Parish Social Media


**Facebook: Iona Road Parish**      **Instagram: ionaroadparish**



**Improve Strength and Balance.**  
 The Parish and Dublin City Sport and Wellbeing Partnership (DCSWP) are pleased to continue to support the Resistance Exercise Classes for older adults on Monday mornings at 11am to 12 midday at the side aisle of the church.  
 Thanks to the Parish and DCSWP there is no charge for these classes. All are welcome.

Chair Exercises with Pauline Pierce  
 Monday 11-12. All Welcome  
 Annex Monday: Bridge 2-4PM  
 Annex Tuesday: Bingo/Cards 2-4:30pm  
 Lectio Divina Thursday at 10am  
 Annex Thursday 11-12: Bible  
 Annex Friday: Writer's Group 11-12:15pm  
 Day Trip to Banbridge & Newry Wed. 20th March. More information next week.

World Day of Prayer will be celebrated on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024  
 Theme: "I Beg You Bear with one another in Love"  
 The service is prepared by the Palestinian WDP Committee in St Joseph's Rosmini Church Grace Park Road at 2.30pm



**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock**  
 Archbishop Dermot Farrell will lead our annual pilgrimage to Knock on **Sat April 27**. Our Lady of Victories Church have organised a bus for anyone interested in travelling to Knock. The bus will leave Our Lady of Victories Church at 7.45am on April 27<sup>th</sup> and make one quick stop for 10 minutes on route. You are asked to bring a packed lunch, tea/coffee will be available in Knock. We will depart after the Mass leaving at 4.30pm. The cost is €25.00 per person. If you are interested please contact Grainne 8420346 in Our Lady of Victories Church, between 10 and 1pm Monday to Friday to book and make arrangement of payment.

**St Columba's Flower Society** are holding a collection after 6pm Mass on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and 11am Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Your continued and generous support in helping the society to maintain a supply of fresh flowers in our Church is very sincerely appreciated we thank you in advance for your generosity .



**NOVENA GARDINER STREET**  
 The Novena of Grace in honour of St Francis Xavier begins on March 4 and continues until March 12.  
 Fr Michael Simone SJ is our preacher this year.  
 Mass times:  
**Mon-Fri:** 11 am, 1 pm & 7.30 pm.  
**Sat:** 11am, 1pm & 6pm.  
**Sun:** 11 am, 3.30pm & 7.30 pm.

