

MARINO PARISH



Our New Newsletter

August 2020

Editorial



Trust in God still and trust in me

In early March when our last Newsletter was completed for the printer, our headline was in a sense an optimistic one. Little did we know how the pandemic would impact on our lives and how our future was taken from us by an invisible enemy, which had the capacity to wreak havoc on our lives and our economy. One which had the capacity to time limit our futures in a way which only illness could do.

With everything closed other than essential services and people over seventy locked into their homes, pessimism was the order of the day. In an emergency situation our media tended to fill our ears with bad news. However slowly like a butterfly emerging peoples innate goodness came to the fore. Shopping was done for those locked in. Medicine was delivered by young people from clubs and organisations. Neighbours came to be known and spoken to. Concern for others was manifested in so many ways.

Of course, the tragedy of nursing home deaths and pandemic funerals could never be eased nor the long wait for those in hospital to come home could not be shortened.

Front line workers became our new heroes not just the medical profession who were on a very personal front line with risks which we did not have to face, but the unseen heroes, our bakers, butchers, shop owners, our shop assistants, post persons, gardai, defence forces, delivery people, and all who kept us fed and cared for were the unseen and unsung.

Our priests and ministers also played their part providing ministry and hope each and every day when even the solace of prayer and sacrament was unable to be provided to many.

Now that we are hopefully in calmer waters despite the odd ripple, we can reflect on the words of Christ. It has been a time in our lives when trust was so important. We gave our trust to our leaders, to our relatives and friends, to our neighbours, each of us trusting the other to do the right thing.

Thus, Christ asked us to trust Him and in God, and the pandemic showed us more clearly that God worked through each one, not in any great miracle but in the small miracle of goodness which He draws from each of us. We can share in the beautiful prayer of Thomas Merton in which he entrusts his life to the Lord. *"Therefore, will I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."*

Web version of the newsletter

Many of you will have read that we were not in a position to publish or distribute the newsletter and until we can get back to safely delivering the newsletter house to house we have put together this web based Summer issue. The Health and Safety of our distributors is our major concern.

A big thank you to our local business sponsors whose contribution towards the printing costs have made the printed newsletter possible for the last eighteen years. As the newsletter will be web based for the foreseeable future, we are not constrained by the cost of colour printing and we can publish a more colourful newsletter. In the future we hope to be able to provide a platform for our local sponsors to share.

Parishioners will in future need to download or collect from the Church, November Dead lists and Christmas and Easter Dues envelopes or donate using the new system on the website.

The weekly bulletin posted on the website is our normal method of communication on a weekly basis and it will continue to be so. The Parish Team must be congratulated for publishing it each week and keeping all of us informed as to current events and changes in our services etc.

Our web version will contain our usual type of articles notices etc, with perhaps items of interest to a wider audience. For us on the Editorial team this is also a learning

The late Cecil Geraghty R.I.P

We were deeply saddened by the death of Cecil Geraghty, late of Gracepark Heights, who died in June last. Cecil was very involved in the parish and in its development during Parish renewal and he became an early member of the Communications group and was associated with the Parish newsletter. He was a great colleague who was always available to help.

In the community of Gracepark Heights and Meadows, he was secretary of the Residents association for many years and was renowned as a hard worker and diligent committee person.

In recent years his illness prevented him from being involved in the many activities that he worked on and participated in.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Irene, his wife, to his daughters, their families and his extended family on their sad loss.



Magnificent Marino Mini Marathon Sponsorship

Well done to Lorraine and her eleven fellow participants who undertook their own 10k mini marathon on the 21st of June last. Due to the pandemic the regular mini marathon was not held but Lorraine and her team remained true to their sponsors and completed the journey on the longest day of the year. It was also a most successful event raising over €5,000 for Brother Kevin's Homeless Charity.



Brother Kevin was presented with his cheque at a residents musical evening in Shelmartin Terrace on the July last, where an additional €445 was added making an overall contribution of €5,685.

In a very comprehensive letter to Lorraine and her fellow participants and to those residents, he expressed his continuing gratitude for the contribution, explaining how the charity each day continues to provide so much more than meals to many homeless and to those living in poverty.

In these extracts from his letter we can see the range of the work which he does,

" We are currently providing, free of charge, almost two hundred breakfasts and over eight hundred dinners, on a daily basis, to the homeless and marginalised in our society, six days a week. Each week we distribute in the region of fifteen hundred food parcels. We also provide medical, dental, optical and personal hygiene facilities. Without the kindness and support of people like your good selves it would not be possible for us to continue to provide the same high standard of help and assistance to the most needy and vulnerable in Irish society.

Our donors are remembered in our daily prayers here in the Capuchin Community at Saint Mary of the Angels Church, Church Street, Dublin 7.

Rest assured that your generosity will not go unrewarded" In the height of this current crisis of pandemic the goodness of people shines out like a beacon of hope for a better future when all the dust settles.

The late Sister Barbara Sexton, C.P: An Appreciation



Sister Barbara Sexton, C.P. who died recently in Lytham St. Annes, Lancs., was a parishioner of Marino. As Lena Sexton, she grew up on Croydon Park Avenue, and attended the parish schools, completing her Secondary Education at Maryfield College.

She entered the Cross & Passion Novitiate on leaving school, where she qualified as a teacher. She taught in Ballycastle, Co. Antrim and in Bradford and Bolton in the north of England and was Head Teacher in Bolton for 23 years. In 1992 she was honoured with an O.B.E. for her Services to Education.

After her retirement from teaching in Bolton, Sr. Barbara joined with some local people in setting up a Project for disadvantaged people, which grew and flourished over the years. Her commitment to this work was whole-hearted.

She was also the author of a biography of the Foundress of the Cross & Passion Sisters, Elizabeth Prout, who became Mother Mary Joseph Prout. The biography, entitled "A job in Jeopardy," was published in 2010, and is most interesting and enlightening.

As Sr. Barbara's health declined, she went to live in the Cross & Passion Convent in Lytham St. Annes, where she passed away in the tender care of the Sisters on 12th June. She was laid to rest in Saltcotes Cemetery in Lytham on 23rd June 2020.

May she rest in peace.



Pat
on
Tap

Lockdown Gardening

Hello once again to everyone. Now that some normality has returned I hope that you are all coping with the new craziness that is going on at the moment, some people still feeling the need to cocoon, keeping distance a must, washing hands, and job shutdowns still on the cards for many.

Thank God, we can go to mass again, thanks to the stewards and the volunteers who sanitise the church after every service. The web church services are marvellous once they don't start going wobbly on you. I have had Mass from our own Parish of St Vincent de Paul, The Red Nuns, St John the Baptist Clontarf and Glenstal Abbey.

Our national broadcasting service RTE had daily Mass on the TV through Lent. It's good that our National broadcasting service is taking a step towards recognising that part of their remit is to support our religious beliefs. You can even get Morning and evening prayer from Clontarf at 9 45 and 5 30.

What have you all done during the pandemic? The weather was and still continues to be exceptionally good, thank God. In the early days I declared war on weeds. If you have a garden big or small get out in it and see what you can do to maintain it or even improve it. Don't worry if you know little or nothing about gardening, you can always get information on the internet. Just put in the key words and you will get a demo on You Tube.

As I was saying I declared war on weeds, ended up like Christy Moore, our well-known balladeer, whom we were told on the steam radio was sitting there waiting for the weeds to grow. When I told one of my friends that I had declared war on the weeds he asked me how many I smoked. Unfortunately, I trampled some plants while weeding, but that is ok

if they are hardy enough and most plants are, so they will grow back again.

Another job I found to do in the garden is moving plants. Sometimes when we get plants first we decide on a space for them but as they get established we find that they shouldn't be there. They might be too big or too small or whatever. So, although it wasn't really the best time to change plants around I gave them a good soaking and moved them. Mostly this worked out fine but one poor plant I moved twice. I think I will have to arrange a funeral for it shortly.

So far I have at least 3 notches on my shovel for plants I killed in this way. But don't mind me get out there and get in touch with nature. If you can't bend or kneel, get raised beds, pots, window boxes and hanging baskets. You won't be sorry; they will bring you hours of joy.

This all brings me to the painting I am sharing this time. It is of one little section of my garden showing evidence that at least some of my plants and shrubs have survived my tender Care! (It is acrylic on board as usual)

Every morning both Miriam and I took a stroll down our little garden to see who can spot something new coming out. There was and is a great joy to be had in doing this and to see something you don't even remember getting. I wish I had a better memory regarding the names of plants and shrubs but don't let that stop you; it certainly doesn't stop me from getting great joy out of our garden. Miriam is the planner and I'm the executioner, in the best sense.

Keep safe until the next time, keep your distance and as Joe Duffy says wash your hands.

God Bless

Pat O'Rourke

THE BOULEVARD IN MARINO

The suburb of Marino, on Dublin's north side, has an interesting history.

Firstly, there are the houses themselves, built in the early twentieth century on part of what was once Lord Charlemont's land. The planning, layout and construction of the estate is first class, and earned Dublin Corporation much well-deserved praise.

When the first of the new houses were built and ready for occupation, the tenants, coming as they did from inner city slums, felt they were moving to live in Heaven itself. The fact that each house had both a front and a back garden was a welcome addition, and the large open spaces throughout the estate were the crowning glory!

The world renowned "Casino at Marino" from which the suburb gets its name, was built by Lord Charlemont as a little retreat where he could entertain his gentlemen friends, safely distanced from the incessant gossiping of his wife and daughters!

Sadly, the Casino suffered many misfortunes during its long life, but is now fully restored to its original beauty, and is one of Dublin's main tourist attractions. To take a conducted tour of the house is to be both entertained and educated.

Lastly, to the afore-mentioned Boulevard, which is in fact beautiful Griffith Avenue, part of which forms the western boundary of Marino Parish. In full, it runs from St. Mobhi Road at the Glasnevin end to Malahide Road at the Clontarf end. Both sides of the Avenue, along its full length, are planted with a double row of trees, which gives it a real sense of beauty and tranquillity, especially when the trees are in full leaf during Spring and Summer.

On a long-ago stroll along the Avenue, I bumped into the late Fr. Boland, our parish Priest at the time, out for some fresh air like myself. During a little chat, he explained to me why Griffith Avenue qualified as a boulevard. It seems that an avenue must have a double row of trees along both sides before it can claim such a title. He also expressed the opinion that Griffith Avenue was probably the one and only boulevard on the north side of Dublin, a fact of which he was extremely proud!

Be that as it may, we Marinoites love and value it as the perfect place for walking, and for bumping into neighbours who are more than happy to stop for a gossip. Of course we do realize that our neighbouring parishes of Drumcondra and Glasnevin can claim ownership of the upper section of the avenue (or boulevard,) but we are more than happy with our one-third share, and with their blessing to enjoy the other two-thirds!

Mary Shiel

Historical Note: It was originally envisaged that the Avenue would run to the Howth Road but housing was built across the planned route and we have the narrower Copeland Avenue as access instead

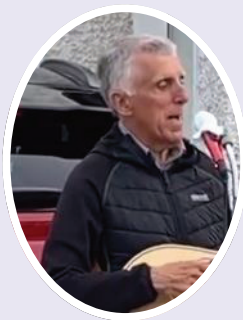
Boulevard definition: a broad avenue in a city, usually having areas at the sides or centre for trees, grass, or flowers.

Lorraine and the Capuchin Stalwarths on the Boulevards



Hey Jude

Shelmartin Terrace Rocks



On Shelmartin Terrace from April until July, every Wednesday night the residents entertained each other, with local talent being evident and friends coming along to give their contribution. On the first of July Brother Kevin was presented with his cheque at the concert.

The concerts are on You Tube under Shelmartin Terrace sing along. Jude was the musician and also acted as M.C.

This gathering of residents was typical of how neighbours and neighbourhoods came together to lighten the load of gloom caused during the pandemic.



Donations to the Church

Now that numbers at Mass are much reduced the Parish income, as has the Diocesan income, been hit badly. The Archdiocese has looked at seeking early retirement and redundancies for its lay staff and Priestly salaries have been cut by 25%.

Thus, every Church has looked at ways to facilitate our congregations desire to maintain our churches and contribute to the living of our priests and to care for those priests who are retired or ill.

Some parishes have instituted a Tap and Go system using bank cards. Here in Marino we have a donation button on the website to allow parishioners to make their usual Sunday contribution.

Also, in Church there are Double wallets to allow parishioners to make an offering in cash and drop the envelopes into the safe at the back of the Church. As everyday can be regarded as 'Sunday' baskets will be in place each morning during mass, since for the duration of the pandemic, the Sunday observance can be fulfilled on any day.

The continuing support of parishioners is much appreciated in these challenging times as the new requirements of hygiene and cleaning costs, plus protective clothing is in addition to the normal parish costs.

RETURN OF 12.30 p.m. MASS

It is hoped that parish team might be able to bring back the 12.30 p.m. Mass on Sundays from September. However, we will need to find some new Volunteers, the number we have at the moment are pushed to the limit. We need you, the public to help out if we are to keep going. Please drop your name and number into the Sacristy, call 01 8332772 or e-mail us at info@marinoparish.ie.



The Volunteers who have come forward do sterling work in managing mass attendance in accordance with the guidelines and are also involved in sanitising the Church after each mass. So much of what they do is done quietly without fuss and they have given great support and commitment since Church services were able to return for public attendance.

We all owe them our gratitude.

Autumn Colouring Competition

Welcome to all our young readers who have loyally entered for the Art competition in our normal Newsletter. To enter this competition, you must print off this page and colour in as usual.

You can either print it directly to your printer or download the page and then print it. The pages are in PDF format and if you can't manage it ask someone in the family to do it for you.

Just colour in the drawing, write your name and address on the back of the page and drop your entries into the parish office at Marino Church, before the 25th. September 2020.

Please do keep entering as it a great encouragement to our judges and our editorial team, when we see so much young talent and interest, especially as this is our first web-based newsletter.

Gift tokens for the winning entries. The upper age limit is 12 years.

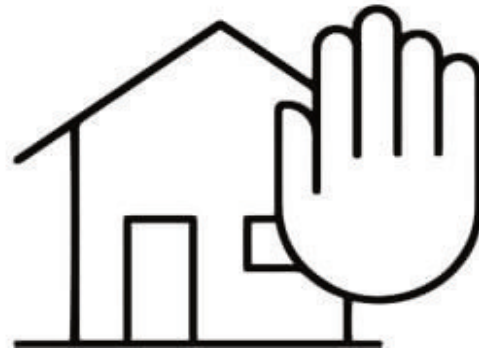
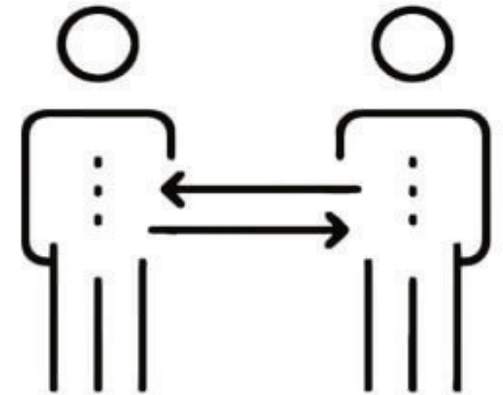
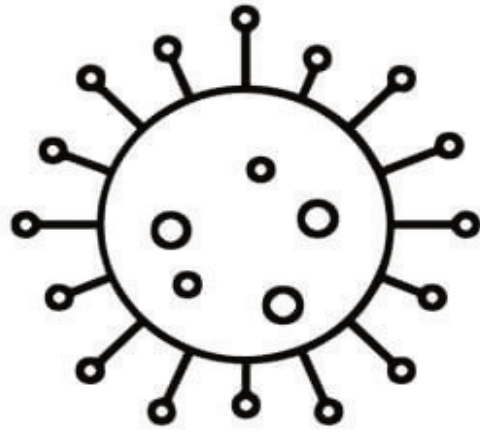
Results published in the next newsletter, and the judges' decision is final.

In line with Child Protection Policy please do not give children's mobile phone numbers.

We also leave out house numbers in the publication to maintain anonymity

Easter Art Competition Winners

1st prize: Naoise Lambe. 2nd.prize: Tammy Carter Joint 3rd. prize: Clodhna McDermott and Cara Gavin



Joy for our First Holy Communion children.



At long last the wait is over and we will shortly have a new host of children who will have shared in the great gift of the Eucharist and who we pray will continue to share with us in the Eucharistic life of the Church.

To the great delight of children, parents and teachers the following are the dates for First Holy Communion.

Sunday 23rd August boys & girls from Gracepark Educate Together/ Drumcondra Church of Ireland N.S.

Saturday 19th September - girls from Miss Butler's Class in SVP

Saturday 26th September - girls from Miss O Hanlon's Class in SVP



Due to Covid 19 we haven't had access to the Annadale Room in the Church. However, we have set up a whatsapp group and have already had two sessions in Grace Park Heights. Another is scheduled for Saturday 12th of September at 3 pm.

If anyone would like to join in please text **089 4983910**. We are currently working on the Preemie Cardigans and Christmas tree decorations for the Coombe hospital as well as hedgehogs, baby cardigans and baby blankets for the Beaumont Foundation.

Hats of all sizes for the Hope Foundation is another project to keep us on our toes.

Mary's Recipe

STEAK MADE EASY

Ingredients:

1 1/2 lbs. Sirloin Steak

2 Medium Onions

1/2 lb. Button Mushrooms

1 Red pepper

1 Green Pepper

2 teaspoons Mustard

1/2 Teaspoon Pepper

Sour Cream

1/2 Teaspoon Salt



Method:

Cut the meat into strips.

Heat 1 1/2 ozs. of Butter in large pan, add thinly sliced onions and cook gently for ten minutes.

Add mushrooms and sliced peppers and cook for a further five minutes.

Remove vegetables and put on a plate and set aside.

Melt remaining Butter over high heat, add meat and sauté for ten minutes.

Add the vegetables and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Mix the Sour Cream and mustard and stir into the pan slowly until blended and cook for a further two minutes.

Serve with Mash potatoes