



Marino Parish Newsletter

Parish of St. Vincent de Paul Marino

No 5 Volume 19 Halloween Issue 2021.



The Carpenter



As we enter once again in to the final month of Autumn and begin the descent into Winter, our thoughts turn as always to the November Dead list, that old tradition which encourages us to remember and pray for the dead. Of course we will pray for our own and those we knew or were good to us.

Let us not forget the countless people who have no one to remember them.

We remember the feast of All Souls and All Saints and somehow we forget that we may have known so many saints in our time. Not people who were canonised in Rome but ordinary people, the saints of ordinary life.

How often have we sat in church at a funeral Mass, listening to the celebrant talking about a deceased neighbour, and feeling a great sense of sadness because we did not know or value the dead person. Our appreciation of people sometimes comes too late.

Now that we have shared so many funerals of neighbours and friends at a distance due to Covid-19 this loss is more keenly felt. That neighbour or friend

has gone without us having a chance to appreciate their lives properly.

And yet we can be very clear in our minds who the latest Saint is, and why they have been chosen .

We are supremely aware of the confirmed Saint, who has been conferred with that appellation through a long and arduous process carried out by the Vatican. Of course this is as it should be since it is not ideal for the Church to canonise someone who later proves to be less than saintly.

Yet we are very often oblivious of the saint who lived beside us. Notice that we are using a small 's' for saint while we profess belief in the Communion of saints, we overlook the saints in our own parish, or in our street. It is as if we know what makes all these faraway people saints, and we accept it. They are entered in the roll of honour because of miracles performed, and certified. Thus, new devotions are born, new names added to litanies, and new pictures for our prayer book.

This is all good in the larger life of the Church, but it can distract us from recognising sanctity and holiness in those around us. When the priest speaks about our dead neighbour, we suddenly realise that here was someone who sought to follow Christ in this life.

But where are the miracles you say, the fasting, the visions, the brave deeds.

Not there to be seen, but reflect a little. Was not their door always open. Did the traveller not find a welcome there. When you were in grief did you not find comfort in that house, from that person.

You laughed with them in your joy. You received more than you gave, you never heard an uncharitable word or an unkindness done.

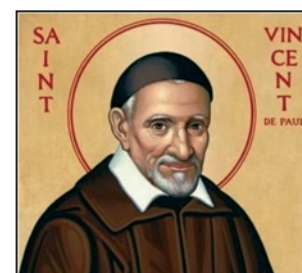
Christ was the model in the house, gently present. Perhaps you knew a saint, one who has gone home to join the great community of saints.

In this time of pandemic when we have lost so many neighbours and friends for whom we could only mourn at a distance or over the internet, as we move forward into October and November, could we now at least remember them for what they were, as they now join in the great communion of the ordinary saints.

When we move forward into this new normal of post pandemic life it maybe time for us all to value those within our community who are still with us and who continue to show us how to live in the image of Christ, by their daily lives.

In this year of Saint Joseph let us reflect a little on how his life was so ordinary and yet..... ?

St. Vincent de Paul



The feast day of the patron saint of our parish of Marino took place on the 27th September last. During the 10.00 am. Mass the relic of the Saint was placed on the altar for the veneration of the faithful.

St. Vincent de Paul was born in Gascony, a region of France in the small town of Pouy, now called St. Vincent de Paul, in April 1581 and though of humble peasant stock he was educated by the Franciscans in the town of Dax. At the age of eighteen he studied for the priest hood and was ordained four years later. He spent some time in Rome and there is a story that he was kidnapped by pirates

and later released. What is known about him is the fact that he did a lot to ease the plight of galley slaves, that is prisoners who were made to work on board ships as part of their sentence. Generally their lives were ones of cruel and brutal treatment and it is one area where he was able to ameliorate their suffering through improving conditions in Bordeaux and Toulouse. This he achieved in his role as chaplain to a wealthy French family of Italian origin.

His work in ministering in poorer Paris parishes gave him his vocation to work for and with the poor. His advice and motto was ***"Love the poor. Honour them, my children, as you would honour Christ himself"*** During his ministry in Paris he became renowned as a spiritual priest who regularly gave religious retreats to other priests. He was involved in helping to establish seminaries throughout France, a major work of the Council of Trent. Because of his involvement with this work he established an order of priests who would work with the poor and be responsive to their needs both spiritual and temporal. This order which became known as the Vincentians was established firstly in a leper hospital the old hospital of St. Lazarus, and the early priests were often known as Lazerians.

He was also working with groups of women from wealthy families who wished to help with the poor around Paris and elsewhere. Many of them found it difficult to cope with the aspects of poverty which they came across. With the help of a lady called Louise de Marillac, he recruited robust young country girls to do the heavy lifting both in caring for the sick and the poor and with the education of the poor. This group of young women under the guidance of Louise de Marillac, with Vincent as their spiritual guide became the Daughters of Charity, an order which graced our parish in earlier times.

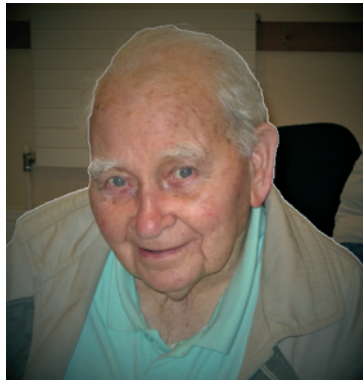
Vincent died on 27th September 1660 and was canonised in June 1737 and, in 1883, the Church designated him as the special patron of all charitable associations.

It is recorded that during the upheaval of the French Revolution in 1789 when every religious statue in the Pantheon in Paris was being destroyed, his was the only one left untouched because of his work for the poor down-trodden people of the city.

Today the Convent in the Rue du Bac in Paris is world famous, as the mother house of the Daughters of Charity as is the Church in the Rue du Sevres where St. Vincent ministered.

His work for the poor is still carried on through the Vincentians and the Daughters of Charity, and through the movement of lay people founded by Blessed Frederic Ozanam, who was moved to put Vincent's words into practice in the Paris of the 19th century, founding the world wide Charity of St. Vincent de Paul.

The late Jim Morrison R.I.P. – An Appreciation



On the 9th September last Marino Parish lost another of its long-time staunch parishioners, with the death of Jim Morrison, late of Carleton Road. Jim came to the parish in 1978, himself being a true-blue Dub, born in Bayview Avenue in 1932. During his lifetime in Marino Parish Jim was involved in most parish activities. He was a lifelong pioneer and had received his gold pin many years ago. In fact up to some years ago Jim was the lynch pin of the Pioneers in the parish.

On his retirement he became more involved in parish life being a daily mass goer. He was a regular on pilgrimages to Lourdes always helpful and bringing music and fun in the evenings playing the piano. Similarly pilgrimages to Knock also elicited the musical side of Jim's talent. For a long time, he carried out the duties of Sacristan and his helpfulness was recognised by all with a celebration of his years of service in the Marino Room.

In later years mobility caused Jim to be less involved but up to the pandemic he was a regular mass-goer serving at mass when he could.

His good humour and his engaging personality will live on in our memories and his passing is mourned by so many of his friends in the parish which he came to call his own.

To his brother Vincent, his devoted niece Veronica and her family, David, Fiona and Ciara and his other nephews and nieces', grandnephews and grandnieces, relatives, and friends we extend our deepest sympathy. We will not see his like again.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.

The late Andrew O'Gorman R.I.P. – An Appreciation

The parish of Marino and closer to home the residents of Calderwood Road have lost a long standing member of this parish, a good friend and neighbour to all who knew him, with the death of Andrew O'Gorman.

Andy as he was more generally known passed away on the 18th of September last. He was for a time a member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Mary, and to his sons Cathal and Colm and their families, to whom he was a cherished husband, father and grandfather.

Ní fheicimid a leithéid anseo arís



Being Pope in times of Social media

Those of us of an earlier vintage will remember that when the Pope in Rome issued a pastoral letter addressed to the faithful, whatever issue was contained therein was taken as the final word. Rome had spoken, and it was faraway. Locally, these pronouncements might have been moderated or changed by the local bishops but not in a doctrinal sense. Today any and every sermon or document from Rome is instantly on worldwide media. Commentary will follow on Catholic channels and, on the secular, depending on how important or controversial it might seem.

Many media outlets will pass on having lambasted the piece or praised it with perhaps a commentary on the Pope's desire to help or encourage.

Controversial social statements are welcomed or criticized depending on how out of tune they seem to be with the modern concept of personal integrity and freedom. Environmental letters are generally well received on all sides.

One of the areas which Pope Francis has concentrated on over his pontificate has been the whole area of shepherd of all the flock. He has tried to make the barriers lower for those who have fallen on the wrong side of Church law. He has attempted to encourage all of us not to judge too harshly. He sees the message as being one to try to save those who are lost. As he has said himself, he was heavily influenced by the documents of Vatican II especially in opening the church ceremonies to lay involvement, to areas of social justice. He has sought to condemn the evils of expropriation of the world's wealth in the hands of the few. He has tried to encourage a sharing of this wealth with the poor through social justice, through care for the third world.

At the recent Conference of European Bishops, he explained what Vatican II meant to himself and the Church in South America. "The council became the horizon of our belief, our language and our praxis, that is, it soon became our ecclesial and pastoral ecosystem," he said. "Quite simply, the council had entered into our way of being Christians and of being church, and throughout my life, my intuitions, perceptions and spirituality were simply generated by the suggestions of the doctrine of Vatican II."

Some ecclesiastics have found these utterances not to their taste since it really asks all of us how do we accommodate our lives and lifestyles with the words of Christ.

While the Gospel tells us 'The poor we will always have with us' it does not suggest that we are required to keep them that way.

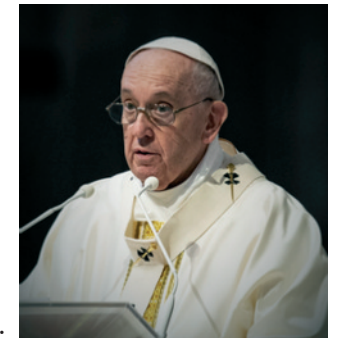
For this and other perceived doctrinal failures he has been subjected to strong criticism from certain quarters even to some ecclesiastics and others suggesting that Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI is still pope.

Recently on his visit to Slovakia he met with a group of Jesuits for a form of colloquium on his work and his life.

In a report of that meeting he spoke about his own life, his hope, successes, and failures and poignantly his recent illness.

He said at this point that there were some people who were really hoping that he would not recover. He also suggested that he was aware of how some people wished his tenure to end. As he saw it, they wanted the old order of clerical authority and privilege to return. It was his prayer that he would continue to serve the Gospel as long as the Lord required him.

It is a tragedy of this modern world, with some in our Church so set in the way of Vatican II, that they cannot conceive of how close Vatican II is to the Gospel. It is even more sad that as we pray for the Pope each day at the Holy Mass, there are those who say the words but find it hard to mean them.



Congratulations and Prayerful Good Wishes

to

Sister Mary



For the last twelve years or so the parish of Marino has been home to the gentle and prayerful presence of a religious Sister from Nigeria, Sister Mary Egerue, of The Institute of the Sisters of the Compassionate Heart of Christ.

During that time she has been a loyal and committed member of our parish, bringing her caring presence into the community at large.

She has graced us with song as a member of our Choir and also as a member of the Legion of Mary.

Sister Mary will be returning to Nigeria for her Final Profession on the 27th November next where she will take her Final vows along with twenty four other Sisters.

We pray that God will bless her with abundant grace as she takes her final vows and that God will continue to bless her Congregation and her Sisters in Christ.



Nature Notes

The end of September, traditionally known as Michaelmas, after the feast of St.



Michael on the 29th. of September, is marked by a profusion of pink, daisy like flowers, standing tall and proud in many gardens. These flowers are Autumn asters, commonly called Michaelmas daisies, but not to be confused with the white Chinese chrysanthemums, sometimes referred to as Dog daisies.

One of the delightful things about the following two months is the week or so of fine weather which we experience in early October and also in November. We sometimes refer to this as an Indian summer. Others refer to the period in October as St. Luke's summer and in November, St. Martin's summer. It is as if Summer will not give in to Autumn, or Autumn to the coming Winter.

By now, most of our summer visitors are gone, except for the odd swallow. Our old reliables come into their own, the starlings and the sparrows, even though there is evidence to suggest that sparrows are becoming less plentiful. We will of course have our usual quota of bluetits, and finches, and wagtails, and our ever-present pigeons and some couples of wood pigeon. The magpie population seems somewhat depleted, but they are resilient birds and are opportunists, and will, I am sure, remind us that they have not gone away.

The seagull has become a presence in our lives and for some a source of amusement. Not however if they nest among your chimney pots and while the city seagull has become very audacious and even threatening to some people they do represent the impact that man has had on their main source of food, the sea.

Country people would always have seen seagulls inland especially after ploughing. On our own green spaces of an early morning, one may see seagulls performing a strange dance on the dewy grass encouraging earthworms to show themselves. The seagull is now a protected species and despite the annoyance that they cause their numbers are in decline.

Our songbirds will still be seen, the blackbird, and of course the ubiquitous robin and the thrush.

The gathering of leaves and the filling of the compost bin with the trees becoming increasingly bare are a reminder of the shortening days. For some of our new neighbours, hibernation is looming especially for our little friend, the hedgehog. These little animals have become more plentiful around the place and if you hear any strange grunting or snuffling in your garden you may have a hedgehog living under some leafy vegetation. They are beneficial in the garden devouring slugs and so on. They are harmless, and if one leaves out some milk or cat food it will help them store up fat for hibernation. So be sure to check before you put that pile of leaves in the bin.

Simple Recipes for Colder Evenings

FRIED POTATO CAKES

INGREDIENTS

8ozs (225g) Mashed Potatoes
1 oz (25g) Butter or Margarine
2 ozs (50g) Flour Seasoning
Pinch Mixed Herbs
Butter or Margarine for frying

METHOD

- ❖ Place mashed potatoes in bowl – melt butter and add to potatoes, mix well.
- ❖ Work in the flour and season to taste, add mixed herbs.
- ❖ Roll out mixture to a $\frac{3}{4}$ in. (2cm) thickness and cut in rounds or triangles.
- ❖ Heat a little butter/margarine in a frying pan and fry for about 3 mins on each side until golden.

BARM BRACK

INGREDIENTS:

2 ozs/50 g Margarine	1 lb/450 g Flour
$\frac{1}{4}$ Pt. Milk	1 Egg
1 oz/25 g Sugar	8 oz/225 g Raisins
1 teaspoon dried yeast	
Pinch Salt	
3 tbs Tepid Water	2 oz/50 g Mixed Peel
3 tbs Water	3 tbs Sugar

METHOD:

- ❖ Put milk and margarine in pan, bring to boil and then cool until tepid.
- ❖ Blend sugar, yeast and tepid water in a cup, leave in warm place for 20 minutes.
- ❖ Sieve flour and salt in a bowl, make a well in the centre and pour in the creamed yeast, tepid milk, margarine and egg and mix to a loose dough.
- ❖ Put dough in bowl and cover with damp cloth and leave for 20 mins.
- ❖ Keep warm until double in size.
- ❖ Bake for 45 mins. on the shelf below the centre one (Gas mark 4, 350°F, 180°C)
- ❖ Heat sugar and water until sugar dissolves, brush over brack and put back in oven for a minute.

Cool on a wire tray.

Editors Note: We have taken the liberty of reproducing two simple recipes from the late Mary O'Mahony's cookery book, Simply Cooking as these were ones she used during Halloween and colder weather.

Pat on taP

October 2021

Hi everyone,

I'm sure most of you are delighted with the easing of restrictions. I have mixed feelings about them myself I must admit. It's lovely to have our freedom restored but there is an element of danger about it all. I do not intend my fears to dominate me so am stepping forward cautiously as I hope you all are.

My indoor bowls have already started back, and it was lovely to meet up with old friends. The Art



Studio is opening up in the coming week and I am really looking forward to that. This brings me to my piece of art for this issue. I am not sharing a painting this time instead I am sharing a photo of some of my potted plants. Choosing a pot and plants to go in it and deciding where to place each plant can be a work of art on its own. There is great joy in growing flowers and shrubs in pots. Why not give it a go and you don't have to travel far as all you want can be obtained from your local Hardware Store.

The Pandemic restrictions have and still are playing havoc with our Churches. Different

Churches in the locality have come up with some solutions which I find interesting. For example, Out Lady of Consolation in Donnycarney has overcome restrictions on First Holy Communion by having one child receive their First Communion at Mass on a Sunday. Not having your classmates is the drawback but having your own special day is the bonus. I believe this works very well and if there is a recurrence of restrictions perhaps it could be adapted by all parishes.

In The Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Fairview they erected a barrier of acrylic sheeting (plexiglass) which is very effective and perhaps could be considered for our own Church. This would be an economic and easy way for any church to recommence confessions..

The Church of John the Baptist Clontarf I believe has to get top prize for their reintroduction of Holy Water. The Parish Council came up with what I think is a very ingenious idea. They took a wall mounted, battery operated dispenser sensor operated hand sanitizer and replaced the hand sanitizer with Holy Water. All you have to do is put out your hand without touching anything and a tiny squirt of Holy Water comes out so you can bless yourself safely with Holy Water going into the Church and again coming out. Every Church should have one.

Then last but not least our own Church of St Vincent de Paul where we have such an organised and dedicated group of volunteers who oversee our coming and going for Mass on a daily bases. They help us maintain social distancing and wearing of mask, help with an orderly and safe distribution of Holy Communion and on top of all that sanitise the Church daily after our departure. Thank you very much one and all for your dedication we really appreciate the efforts you are putting in on our behalf. Ideally I would love to see these ideas operating in all Churches. If you observed anything in a Church you visited during these difficult times that helped make things easier we would love to hear from you.

God Bless for now,

Pat

Gardening in October and November



Now that we are well and truly into Autumn and on the cusp of Winter the jobs in the garden become more maintenance oriented.

Garden furniture should be treated and repainted if you have not already done so. Decking should be treated with the appropriate preservative if necessary. Do clean the decking surface thoroughly before applying the recommended treatment. Always use gloves and follow the instructions, being careful of any

fumes or splashes.

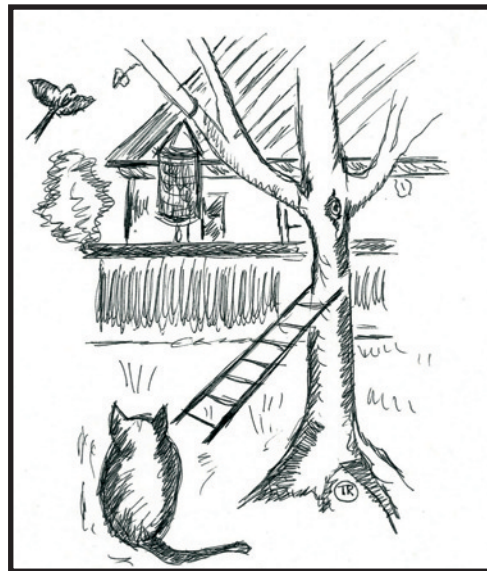
Prune late flowering shrubs where appropriate, and you can cut back lavender once it has finished flowering. Do not cut back too hard into the old wood. Instead use a pair of clippers and just shape by clipping off the old flower heads.

You can also lift and separate perennials at this time especially if they are getting congested. Replant the fresher younger outer sections. Spring bedding plants can be put in now along with Spring flowering bulbs. Later, you should bring under cover any of your potted plants which have been out all summer. The first November frost can wreak havoc with many of our favourite geraniums and such like. Equally, if we have any new trees or climbers, check that they are well secured and staked.

You can also collect fallen leaves and store them in an old plastic bag to make leaf mould for use in spring. Punch a few holes in the bag to allow air in. Of course, you can also use them for compost if you are already composting.

If you have a greenhouse it is no harm to give it a good cleaning. You may want to start some flowers for early blooms. Many varieties can be started early in a cold green house, but if you have any favourites, now may the time to use bubble wrap insulation to make an unheated greenhouse more comfortable. If you have a corner which might take a selection of bee friendly flowers now would be the time to consider what flowers would suit this space and how insect friendly would they be. If you are interested in creating a small haven for pollinators check with the biodiversity website at www.biodiversityireland.ie. Here you will find tips for a whole year plan and how to provide for the needs of bees and butterflies. Remember plants like the buddleia or butterfly bush is a great attraction for butterflies and other insects. Even the wild ivy growing on your back wall is a valuable source of food in the Autumn.

Again, if you like to encourage bird life now may be the time to invest in that new birdhouse or to hang up the new bird feeder. Remember, don't make it too accessible for cats since they can be excellent climbers, and sometimes our favourite pet can revert to being a hunter again.



The Marino Ladies Mini Marathon – a warm day in June

On a balmy Sunday afternoon in early June, nine keen walkers completed their own version of the annual “Ladies Mini Marathon “(which was unfortunately cancelled again this year) along Griffith Avenue to raise a mighty €5450 for a Charity called Mary’s Meals. Mary’s Meals enables more than 1.8 million children worldwide to daily receive a meal at school which in turn allows them to access education. The charity is indirectly a fruit of Medjugorje and was set up following the realisation that lack of food in poorer parts of the world, results in many children not accessing education. (for more information see their excellent website, www.marysmeals.ie)

Organised by Lorraine Doran, the enthusiastic walkers donned their blue T- shirts, had their photos taken by Catherine Dowling and off they set. The pace was good and the chat flowing as the crew clocked up the steps, maintaining themselves with plenty of sips of water and bags of jellies!! The walk was not without its challenges however and guilty consciences caused one or two to rectify a short cut previously taken. The consumption of water led to a need for a bit of relief amidst the ever-present pandemic challenge (lack of restrooms !!). This called for a bit of resourcefulness. ..we thought Lorraine was seeking to join the lads enjoying a few pints in the grounds of the health centre but discovered rather than taking to the drink she was seeking in the pub, an outlet for the full bladdered !!!..to no avail... until a kind soul offered a visit to her home which brought smiles (and extra steps) to some of the crew.

Later on enthusiasm abounded to the point that red traffic lights were deemed a hindrance and poor Lorraine nearly had a heart attack as one of her crew launched out in front of traffic rather than break the momentum...but thanks to the cheer leaders, Anna and Maria encouraging from the side-lines , the crew arrived back tired but safe and happy ..glad to have raised some funds for a very worthy cause .

The avenue was covered twice from Malahide Road to Ballymun road clocking up a total of 12km ! Maria Murphy, who lives locally had refreshments in her back garden, after the event, for those who could stay to enjoy them. On Friday, June 18th a small presentation took place at the Mary’s Meals office on Griffith where Lorraine presented the cheque for €5450 to Audrey who expressed deep gratitude for the money raised and thanked all who contributed. Well done guys, and thanks to Lorraine for making it all happen. Please God, next year we will once again have our annual fundraising walk/run so get those training shoes on!!

A participant





Halloween Colouring Competition

Welcome to all our young readers who have loyally entered for the Art competition in our normal Newsletter.

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 12th. November 2021

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 our newsletter is on the web for the time being.

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 .

1st prize : Isabella Wusu

Second prize: : Sadbh Breen

Joint Third Prize : Saibhe Morris, and Saoirse Breen

Special Prize for Youngest entrant : Aislinn Morris

Closing date for the next Competition is 12th November 2021