

The Marino Camino

Good Friday this year saw the parishioners of Marino embark once again on our mini-Camino, taking in just three churches and finishing at our own. Organised as always by Cora Farrell and her team of willing helpers we set off from St. Vincent de Paul Church after the formal Good Friday ceremonies. We were accompanied on our journey as always by parishioners from our fellow parishes of Fairview and Donnellycarney and by our fellow co-religionists from Drumcondra Parish always willing participants in these shared ceremonies.

Armed with our passports and carrying a stone, to symbolise the burden of our sin and the Cross, we set off in glorious sunshine.



Passing through the beautiful sun dappled grounds of All Hallows we were warmly welcomed to the beautiful historic Church of St. John the Baptist. There with the background of the beautiful Ascension window we were part of a most meaningful service of recollection and music led by Mr. Brian Freeman. Our service concluded with a beautiful reflection from a young parishioner on the Good in Good Friday and how that day has brought so much good to all of us.

On then to All Hallows, with passports stamped and water taken on board if needed, Father Paul reflected on the darkness of Good Friday but the light which these dark events brought into the world. A candle was lit to symbolize this new life of the spirit and the service concluded with the participants taking a light from the candle and placing it before the altar to symbolize the carrying forward of the Light of Christ into the world and into our hearts.



Thence to St. Joseph's, Rosmini, where Father Matt welcomed us and set out to take us on a journey where we were reminded that the Cross was about love, unconditional love which Christ lavished on the world and still does. We were asked to remember and give thanks for the lives and love of those who have died, lighting four candles. The first candle reminded us of the grief we felt over the loss of a loved one. The second candle was for the courage which we need and needed to bear our sorrow and comfort others. The third candle was to remind us of the joy and comfort which those we loved, have given us in their lives here on earth, and the fourth candle was to pray that our love will be a comfort and joy to those we meet and to those we love and have loved.

Father Matt asked us to share in a special way the light of a fifth candle, which was to hope that on the Anniversary of the Good Friday agreement, peace would continue to reign in our country and that the fruits of peace would carry forward and encompass all of us in the future.

Our last stopping point was our mother Church, where those still with us left their stones at the foot of the Cross, in solidarity with Christ and in the hope of the Resurrection. There we saw each piece of the cross carried from each of our halts, assembled, until the Cross loomed over us, a reminder of the gifts which it has brought to us.

Father Tom drew the evening to a close with a final blessing and expressing his gratitude to Cora and all who had helped to make this journey a special day.