Marino Parish Newsletter



St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Marino NO 4 Vol. 20 Christmas Issue 2022



"Your hope, or show of hope, is a gift you can give to your neighbour" (Primo Levi)

As always our Advent editorial speaks of the hope of this season, when we look forward to celebrating the feast of Christ's birth, in a humble stable in Bethlehem.

Last year having endured two years of the pandemic, hope was there in plenty. The vaccine roll out was underway, travel was available. Life was returning to some form of normality.

Then, war in Europe was unleashed on an unsuspecting world. Since then, we have seen such devastation that it is impossible to imagine what type of person could authorise such brutality and what regime could so eagerly implement it, in the name of a belief or some historical illusion.

Such is the world we find ourselves in this Advent. It is hard to look for hope here at this time. Yet that is what we are called to do

As the serenity prayer has it we must "take this sinful world as it is, not as we would wish it to be." Therefore, this Advent let us remind ourselves what the Christmas story brings to us in the manger. The birth of the Christ Child brought three great gifts, the reality of Faith, the advent of Hope, hope in the resurrection and eternal life, and above all Love, the love which God has for each one, and that love which led to the Cross. These gifts of the Christ Child turn Advent again, into a well spring of Hope, and Love, built on the belief in Christ as God and man.

At this time too, let us not forget that Love must be shared, and that through Love, we can give Hope and encourage people in Faith. The words of **Primo Levi**, a survivor of Auschwitz, above, remind us that hope is a gift we can share to help people survive.

We are not just an Advent people. The world as it is gives us challenges; homelessness, housing, the refugees fleeing war, people fleeing cruel regimes, the victims of abuse and violence and the economic consequences of war. But the gifts which Jesus has brought allow us to see the world differently and will help us to fully realise our Christmas hopes and joys, through sharing our gifts with others in Charity and Love.

A very happy and Holy Christmas to all our loyal parish readers.

Also the Communications team would like to thank Fr. Tom, Fr. Christian, Parish Office personnel and the Sacristans for their continued support and also to recognise the great work done by our Pastoral Assistant, Mrs. Anne Dooley.

A Recent Visitor



Sr. Martha Bategeka from Uganda has just returned to her country having spent a month in our parish,. She was here for medical reasons. She belongs to the sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. There are four hundred Sisters in her congregation with an unfinished novitiate bursting at the seams with young women eager to be trained, to work for the Kingdom.

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To help bring this building project to completion, we went on a begging spree and did a whip around locally. A very acceptable sum of $\in 1,250$ was raised, worth far more in Uganda, with the currency exchange frate. One day we will see the value of our giving, in gospel terms.

Thanks to all of you who constantly dig deep and respond with kindness and generosity, to each begging request. The Good Lord will repay you a 100-fold. I, in turn will keep you in my prayers, love support.

Lorraine Copy of the formal receipt from the congregation

PatontaP Christmas 2022

Happy Christmas to all our readers.

Christmas is one of the greatest feasts of the church celebrating the coming of the Son of God among us as one of us. It is hard to get our heads around it but praise God it happened. Traditionally we celebrate this great event by exchanging gifts and attending Holy



Mass. It was always a very special time for children with presents and goodies.

As it is Christmas and a time for joy and children I decided to share my painting "Captain Underpants and Friends" Acrylic on board. The Captain is one of the newer comic and cartoon caricatures who were not around in my time as a child. As you can see from the painting Captain Underpants is in trouble having had a temporally loss of power. He is falling and looking likely to fall on the very sharp and long nails of Cat Kid.. Now children I know you would not like anything bad to happen to Captain Underpants so here is what you have to do.

Figure out how he escapes and if you like write it out and send it to the editor Marino Parish Newsletter c/o The sacristy St Vincent De Paul Church and mark it Captain Underpants. With your permission we will publish the best

escape plan. So, looking forward to hearing from you.

As we come together for the celebration of Christmas let us pray for peace in the world, peace in our country and peace in the home.

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of the peacemaker in the infant Jesus. Perhaps we might find the following prayer useful.

"Almighty God our Heavenly Father, by the power of The Holy Spirit in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we humbly ask in union with all the Holy Masses said throughout the world, past, present, and future, for peace in Russia, Ukraine and throughout the world. Peace in our hearts and the Hearts of all in accordance with Your Holy Will. Amen.

We are also getting near to the time we will be considering New Year resolutions. Here are some suggestions

- 1. As mentioned above we might consider making ourselves more aware of the Real Presence and act with more reverence in church.
- 2. Consider attending Eucharistic Adoration which continues each Sunday evening from 7.00pm in Clonturk House. Unfortunately for such a large parish Adoration is not very well supported.
- 3 Join a prayer group; you could consider the Medjugorje Prayer Group which meets in our parish in the Annadale Room every Thursday from 8 to 9pm

That is all for now God Bless

Pat

Christmas Candles

In an earlier age when we were much poorer, part of our Christmas preparation was the purchase of the Christmas candle. Fairy lights and electronic displays have almost obliterated this practice from our memories today. The Christmas candle and its lighting was part of how Christmas was celebrated. On Christmas Eve going through the country side, each house would have at least one candle twinkling in the window, if not one in every window.

Lighting the candle was also part ceremonial since the youngest child was always called upon to light it. For many people the candle was a welcoming symbol for the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph to show the world that there was a welcome at each house. While many people still follow the traditional practice, because of the risk of fire more people now use an artificial electric candle. Colour was also important with many people seeking red candles and others blue. Of course, as well in those different days, people liked to have blessed candles in the house if a priest had to make a sick call. So many little touches were important to us then.

For many of us however the candle will symbolise the open door and the welcome for that little family at Christmas. May its light continue to fall on all who have a welcome for people at Christmas time?

The Newsletter is published in good faith by the Communications Group of Marino Parish. The Parish cannot accept liability for any errors or omissions contained therein

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mrs. Eileen Brady R.I.P.

The family of the late Eileen Brady, Brian Road would like to offer their heartfelt thanks to the many friends and neighbours who supported Eileen and the family through her lengthy illness. To those who called and visited the house when she died, attended the funeral mass, provided emotional and practical support, the family are truly grateful. Please accept this acknowledgment as an expression of our deepest gratitude.

Mrs. Anne Maher R.I.P.

The family of Anne Maher (Nee Ward) late of Griffith Court and Carrickmacross, Co., Monaghan want to thank all of our relatives, friends and neighbours for their wonderful support and kind expressions of sympathy during Anne's illness and subsequent demise.

We are so grateful for all you have done for us, having been inundated with cards, letters, phone calls, prayers, and visits. They have helped us greatly as we struggled with our loss. Please know that your generosity and thoughtfulness have touched us deeply.

A sincere word of thanks to Father Tom and Father Liam for officiating at the Funeral Mass We also wish to express our appreciation to Lonergan's Undertakers and to Kirwans Funeral Home.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for all your intentions.

A BIG THANK YOU

Sadie Staunton of Griffith Court wishes to thank her neighbours, friends and family who so generously supported her Coffee Morning for Saint Francis Hospice on 22nd September last. Sadie raised €4,690 which included two corporate donations, totalling €2,000 from Sadie's nieces in memory of their father, Brendan.

Recent Bereavements

Please pray for the following recently deceased members of our parish:

- August 2022 Mary Lalor Josephine McKenna Alice Kane
- September 2022 Lillian O'Grady Rosaleen Kenny Frank Burke Miriam Lynch

Vincent Malone Margaret Ingoldsby Fiona McQuillan Agnes Murray Dermot Lynch **Brian Mullins**

October 2022 Anne Maher Sr. Mary Kirby

Elizabeth Benans Teresa (Terry) Donnelly Gerald Byrne Alfred O'Reilly Anne McInarney Anne (Nancy) O'Connor

November 2022 John Kilmurray Peter Moore



..... Congratulations to these happy couples married recently in our Parish Church

August 2022

Roisin Higgins and Peter White Barbara Vaughan and Sean McGovern



September 2022 Fiona Casserly and Alan Kershaw



Margaret Keegan and Daniel Hanlon Margaret Keegan and Daniel Hanlon A sincere word of thanks to all parishioners for your support in 2022 and especially to all our volunteers who made it possible to function in the past year. Wishing you a Very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and loal more normal and peaceful 2022 Wishing you a Very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and looking forward to a healthier and

Father Tom, Father Christian and the Parish team

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2022

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Monday 19th December at 7.30 pm. (Individual Confessions with communal preparation and thanksgiving (Parish Clergy and visiting Priests)

CAROL SERVICE Wednesday 21st December at 7.30p.m. CONFESSIONS Saturday 24th December 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon and 3.00 p.m. to 4.30p.m. MASSES Saturday 24th December (Christmas Eve) 10.00 a.m., 5.30p.m. (Family Mass) and 8.00p.m. (Vigil Mass) (Carols from 7.45p.m. on Christmas Eve)

Sunday 25th December - Christmas Day 9.15a.m. and 11.00a.m. (Church closes after Mass)

Monday 26th December – (St. Stephen's Day) Mass at 10.00 a.m. (Church closes after Mass.) Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord Thursday 5th January 7.00 p.m. (Vigil Mass) Friday 6th January – Mass at 10.00 a.m.

St Joseph's Chapel Rosmini

24th December - Christmas Eve 7.00 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

25th December - Christmas DayMass 10.30 a.m.

The Brent's are back?



This issue would not be complete if we did not refer to our winter visitors, the Brent Geese. It is only in the last few weeks have we seen their echelons flying over Marino in

that beautiful vee shaped formation. Like all other species their arrival is now predicated on how global warming affects their habitat. Migrating south as they do from their breeding grounds around Baffin Bay in Canada, to escape the harsh Arctic winter, the Dublin Bay has always been an important stopping off place for them with its many green areas, not only those of the North Bull but every pitch and park around the Clontarf, Raheny and Malahide area. Of course, we are only one of the many areas they return to each year. Yet, there seems to be fewer of them this year but this is not a scientific count, just an observation.

Their advent is a mark of our year, something many of us love. They are an important part of our seasonal story, bringing the first news of impending winter and on their departure, as harbingers of summers to come. A poet has written of how they remind us of our earthbound selves and as we watch their flight he has written these lines of longing, which, after the pandemic, are so very apt for this time of year,

"Now I watch my window, as geese feather the moon, and long for one more flight".

Baptisms Flease welcome into our Christian Community all the children baptised recently in our Parish Church

August 2022

Alexandra Fave McLorie Jessica Rose McLorie Rory Michael Patrick Connolly Éanna Seán Comaskev Fíadh Siobhán Lennon Síomha Lennon Michael Brian McDonnell Lily Ava Mills Lucy Una Farrell Lilian Betty Ruddy Roman Michael Gaffney Domhnall Martin Mac Colgáin Daithí Fergal Mac Colgáin Ted Sean Sherlock Ella Molly Spratt Finn Máirtin Mac Colgáin Jonah Patrick Gibbons Catherine Elizabeth Costello

September 2022

Cillian Joseph Flannelly Freddie Joseph Quirke Olivia Sheila Fogarty Olivia Jenny Murphy Max Richard Tansey Luna Julia Wheelock Wallace Cillian Duff Síofra Caitriona Smyth Alec David Kohler Luke Patrick McDonnell



October 2022

Sophia Kate Ledwidge Kai Gerard McCann Finn Patrick O'Callaghan Peadar Jack Duggan Jacob John Harrington Gene William Malone Axel William Anthony O'Sullivan

November 2022

Molly Angela Fleury Sadie Helena Fennell Diego Giamtiero Gigli Fiadh Elizabeth Morris Finn Brendan O'Neill Ailbe Tomás D'arcy Saoirse Moya D'arcy Charlie Denis Kane Hugo Francis Lynch Emily Catherine McCann