

Marino Parish Newsletter

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Marino Summer Issue 2026 NO. 2 Vol.24



Parish October 2028?



As the foundation stone of our Church laid on the 2nd of May 1926 was rededicated and blessed at our Sunday Masses on the 2nd and 3rd of May last the editorial asked a question as to where the next hundred years would take the parish of Marino.

These are questions

which we hope to address over the next two years leading to the centenary of the Consecration of the Church. It is not so much about the physical church but about the mindset that surrounds a church and a parish. From 1926 onwards one can see evidence and believe that the parish of St. Vincent de Paul Marino and our church were one unit with the schools on either side also part of that picture. Marino became synonymous with the parish and in Father Kingston's words, parish and Christian formation were forever linked.

Over the last thirty years or so we have seen this identity eroding away even in staunch areas of the countryside.

Marino now is an area of the city. It is not automatically identified with our parish and, indeed, our Church, because of its patron Saint, is very often not linked with Marino either.

Looking back over the last one hundred years, it is that cohesion that led to so much good in the parish. How many Christian movements became part of the spiritual life of the parish. Practical work in support of the parish, parishioners giving up time to assist in parish life. This was the norm for so many. That is the task that lies ahead, not just for Marino but for the Church in Ireland and elsewhere.

The **Building Hope** initiative is bound up with planning and developing new growth in parish life with personal involvement between laity and clergy.

This is also set against a backdrop of so many different influences mitigating against these ideas. We have the individualisation of society, where more and more people communicate electronically, especially since Covid.

AI is also a factor which can hinder communications and interactions.

Sport and the demands of sport now inhibit participation at

weekend services, further loosening contact with the broader parish structure.

In a busy world people have moved their priorities around where for many the Church is peripheral

So many weighty questions to mull over in terms of responses and in terms of where we want our parish to be at the start of the next hundred years.

Father Harry Bohan, the Co. Clare priest with years of Community and parish development behind him, fifteen years ago, Left us with this thought "Today we have to mine for our Christianity, but we must start within ourselves."

Let us conclude with optimistic words of Pope Leo XIV on a pastoral visit to one of his parishes in Rome recently where he reminded the parish pastoral council to

"to not simply maintain the status quo with their regular churchgoers". He actively challenges them to **"go out and seek others"** and serve as **"a special outpost of proximity"**.

A wide perspective to take on. Let's see how we can measure up over the next two years.

Father Christian and Fr. Liam after the blessing of the stone .

Congratulations to the Vins

Hearty congratulations to our own St. Vincents Football club as they celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their first All-Ireland Football club victory way back in 1976.



In a nostalgic piece in the Irish Times sports page by Sean Moran, he reflects through interviews with various players on the impact that the men of Vincents had on the Dublin teams success in the seventies and their own success as a club firstly in the semi-final in Cork against Nemo Rangers which they won.

One of the victorious team recalled that he and two other clubmates got early mass in Marino and headed for the train to Cork; simpler days indeed.

Beating Nemo that day led to the final against Roscommon Gaels which they duly won.

A lovely piece of writing and bringing back so many memories of great club men of the past who became Dublin icons as well.

Summer Dues

Summer Dues Envelopes are currently being delivered to each household in the parish and there are also spare envelopes available at the back of the Church. Please ensure that returned envelopes have your name and address on the them. Envelopes may be placed in the safes at the back of the church or handed into the Sacristy .

Bonus or Burden



In his recent Encyclical entitled *Magnificent Humanity* Pope Leo addressed the mounting concern worldwide over the growth of AI and the spending cost associated with it. Such is the clamour to invest in developing AI systems further, that invest-

ment is no longer readily available for more human centred needs. Certainly, it is also having an impact on Aid internationally. Governments are also concerned that the smooth running of Government itself and its social services and Health and Education are in control of the producers and manufacturers of such IT systems.

Pope Leo has considered AI at the human level where in war the machine distances the person from the result. One can launch a simple drone with a bomb attached and kill someone twenty kilometres away while looking at them.

The morality of such ability and the dehumanising cost of such killing is not immediately obvious, but these systems have no built in ethical control other than the operators.

A future Europe may have to deal with former Russian and Ukrainian soldiers who have operated such systems for so long that they become desensitised to other beings.

His letter also addresses the impact of these systems on children and young teens who may become enthralled and snared into using these programmes in ways with no moral framework.

The Pope also stressed that the dignity of the human person must be protected, that the unique gifts of each human person cannot be equated with a non-life-giving machine.

In a corporate world where increased wealth is consolidated in fewer hands, he urged such economic giants to act ethically and with a spiritual responsibility.

Indeed, there are some such executives who wonder has the development of Artificial Intelligence gone too far already. Time will tell whether it is a bonus or burden.



Congratulations

Congratulations to all the children who received their Confirmation in March last and to all their parents who supported them in this journey fulfilling as they did the promise made for their

child at Baptism. As part of their Confirmation commitment, they undertook to visit Fairview Community Unit, on May 13th, to bring cheer and entertainment to the patients there. This was part of their schedule of preparation, culminating with the volunteering project with Localise a parish initiative to facilitate these young people to understand those who may be in need and in helping them understand how volunteering can help many people at different stages of their lives.

As a follow up the children spoke at each mass on the weekend of 16th May last with a child from their class speaking about what they had done.

As part of their visit they worked with our Pastoral worker and Catechist, Anne Dooley to prepare their visit. During their visit to Fairview Community Hospital they entertained the patients using their talent in song and dance, and in chatting to patients and learning about their lives. They also made cards for each patient so those who couldn't attend did not feel left out.

These are young people of whom we can be rightly proud as they make their way in life understanding that Confirmation is not a once off but a lifetime commitment.

Baptisms

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

March 2026

Paulo Eddie Reilly
Tom William Kieran Gaffney
Kaylan Jagdambi Marchand
Mabel Jinad
Theo Bodie Hanley-Devitt
Theodore Patrick Robinson
Lauren Margaret Treacy
Aisling Elizabeth O'Donovan
Matilda Lily Fitzharris
Jake Ashton Fox



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

April 2026

Luca Sammy McLoone
Hazel Mae Lenehan
Isaac Brian Bayliss
Olivia Emily Mallon
Akim Baranouski

May 2026

Harry Frank Perry
Nora Rosie Nic Aodhagháin
Isabelle Saoirse Moloney
Frankie Jay Noone

Blessing of Volunteers



As part of the preparation for our Church's centenary celebrations in 2028 and recognising the life of the parish over the last hundred years it was decided that there would be a Special Blessing of Parish Volunteers on the weekend of 13th and 14th of June.

As Father Noone reminded us the nature of volunteering is **Putting others first**.

It is that spirit which has kept the parish going over all this time and it is that silent engine which moves parish life along from cleaning, to laundry, to Art work, through liturgical preparation, in Reading, as Ministers of the Eucharistic, on the Funeral team, in the Choir and even collecting and counting the offerings after mass. Each volunteer giving as they can.

At each Mass to which all volunteers had been invited the Blessing was imparted not only to those presently involved but to those who have served in the past.

There was also a special prayer of encouragement for others to come forward in light of the Building Hope programme in each parish. Indeed at this time after the Pentecost season it is to be hoped that more workers will come forward to work in the Lord's vineyard.

Simply Cooking

Favourite recipes from the late Mary O'Mahony's popular cookery book

WHISKEY DIPLOMAT (NO OVEN)

Ingredients:

2 Packets Boudoir Biscuits
Large Whipped Cream
Small Glass Whiskey (or a spirit of your choice)
Large mug of cold coffee.
Oblong dish is preferable.

Method:

Place coffee and spirit in a cereal bowl. Dip each biscuit in mixture and place on oblong dish – about 6 biscuits. Put whipped cream on top. Then dip another 6 biscuits in coffee mix. Cover with whipped cream and repeat. Cover with cream on top and sides and decorate with grated chocolate and half cherries.

Place in fridge – no cooking.

Yummie I think – this would be good to “finish off” a barbecue.

Editors Note: Once again at this time we are republishing one of Mary's handiest recipes

Recent Bereavements

Pleas pray for the following deceased members of our parish:

March 2026

Martin McDonnell
Thomas Williams
Larry Lowry
Nuala Kane
Irene Cannon
Joseph O'Brien

April 2026

Robert O'Brien
Lorcan Kelly
Aidan McDermott
Sr. Una Vaughan
(Teresa) Terry McDermott
Nino Besagni



May 2026

Kathleen Tansey
Msgr. Michael P. Mooney
Sr. Sheila McNally
Kathleen Brady
James Cunningham

Pat on Tap

It's quite some time since I have been talking to you all and you're probably wondering is that fella alive or dead or what.

From my previous rambling's you probably remember that I have been fighting cancer for many years.

Late last year I finally arrived at the stage where the treatments weren't working any more. In April last the hospital decided that no further treatment was sustainable but I still maintain contact.

I was then referred to the Hospice for ongoing care. When you are referred to the Hospice for treatment I must confess it's a bit of a downer as you get the feeling that everyone has given up on you and it's time to throw in the towel.

That's not true; it only means conventional medicine has gone as far as they can at this time but you can live a long and productive life. The people in the hospice treat the symptoms not the condition and guaranteed you feel 100% better.

While you may not be able to do everything you did before they will encourage you in what you can do. I was recently on a nature course at the Hospice where we transplanted tomato plants, compared difference in growing outdoors and behind a window. Twice the size the one in the window was. We made pouches of lavender, planted seeds, pressed flowers and made cards with them. The two cards I made are pictured here.

So remember there is life with cancer which can be good.

God bless

Pat

Editor: Welcome back, Pat. We missed you.



St Carlo Acutis Young Adults Prayer & Social Group:

St Carlo Acutis Young Adults Prayer and Social Group, ages 17 to 25, will meet at Fairview Church on Friday 18th September, 16th of October, 20th November, and 18th December.

Adoration and Confession from 8.00-9.00 p.m. and Social with Pizza, table tennis and games from 9.00-10.00 p.m..

Contact 087-6274600 for more details.

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Archbishop Farrells message of Hope on Pentecost Sunday

In his homily delivered on Pentecost Sunday the Archbishop spoke about the reality facing the Apostles and disciples. Their leader, Jesus Christ had ascended to Heaven and in a sense they were almost abandoned.

However, the gift of the Holy Spirit gave them the hope they needed to launch out on mission.



So, it is now with our Church he continued. We have chosen this synodal path, as set out in Building Hope, which means all baptized walking together in harmony seeking new ways to be followers of Jesus.

He made that point that this would not be easy. Old certainties would be stripped away and new structures taking their place.

But amidst all of this we are with the Apostles recognizing that we are not alone, that the Holy Spirit will be with us. We are called to let go of what was, and open ourselves to where Christ is leading us, to embrace the hope God has for us and for all creation.

“Just as for the first disciples, this will mean a letting-go. There will be a sense of grief and loss, but there can also be liberation in letting go and starting anew. Is not this the sense of freedom, the renewed strength that we read about in the account of Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles, the renewed life the Apostles received, their new hope and confidence in God?”

Reflections on 1926.



One of the interesting things that we know about the time the foundation stone of the Church was laid and blessed was the fact that it was newsworthy. It had a Pathe News crew ready to film and publish it. Those of us of an older generation may remember the short news films

that were shown before the main film in cinemas. The news reels were generally Pathe news and they often showed world news if newsreels were sent to Ireland. It became one of the pathways for opening up our eyes to what was happening in the world outside..

Later on Gael Linn produced short films in Irish covering aspects of Irish life.

Also that year 2RN our own radio station was launched by Dr. Douglas Hyde and of course the First National Census of the Irish state was conducted. Remarkably each part of the country had the census at the same time.

Remembering Fr. John McLaughlin By Bernadette Henry



Fr. John McLaughlin was born in Moville, Co. Donegal and was ordained in 1963. He served for sixteen years in various parishes, including St. Vincent de Paul, Marino.

He arrived in our parish in 1975, at a time when Folk Masses were only beginning to emerge. The first well-known example was the Rathmines Folk Group, whose

music I admired greatly. I travelled to the 6.00pm Mass in Rathmines every Sunday, but I longed to see something similar in our own parish.

At that time, the Church was still very clerically dominated, with the altar rails firmly in place. Introducing folk music felt like a bold step. The other four priests were hesitant — but Fr. John was different. With some trepidation, I asked him about starting a Folk Mass. He thought it was a wonderful idea.

And so, in September 1975, our Folk Mass began — a small group of teenagers stepping into uncharted waters. Valerie Moore on guitar, Pat Duff also on guitar, Kieran Hennessy, mandolin, Ben Wade on accordion, with six singers, including myself.

Very quickly, we found ourselves singing to a packed congregation at the 1.00pm Mass every Sunday.

Fr. John often celebrated Mass with us. He encouraged new members, supported us wholeheartedly, and brought great warmth to the group. Sadly, his time with us was short-lived.

In 1979, Fr. John joined the Society of St. Columba, Missionaries, and was appointed to Chile. There he became a zealous and dedicated missionary, continuing his ministry for a further twenty years.

I remain deeply grateful for his enthusiasm and openness to the idea of a Folk Mass, especially at a time when Church music was dominated by the organ.

When I married my husband Thomas over forty years ago, we were blessed th

at Fr. John celebrated our wedding Mass. Naturally, the Folk Group sang — and even came along afterwards to play at the celebration.

Fr. John died peacefully on February 19th at Nazareth House, Donegal. He leaves behind a legacy filled with joy, hope, and love.

In his eulogy, his brother Tony spoke warmly of John's devotion to the many parishes he served, and he made special mention of John's happy years in Marino.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam. (May his soul be at the right hand of God.)

A Folk Mass in his honour will be celebrated on Saturday, 27th June at 5.30pm