



The Catholic Parish
of
Celbridge
and
Straffan



PLANNED GIVING: Weekly Envelope Collection: €1,630. Your continued support is appreciated. Thanks also to the collectors.
RECEIPTS 2014: Receipts have been issued to parishioners for the year ended 30/11/2014. If you have not received your receipt or if you require a receipt text your name, address to 085 7021882.



**Parish Retreat to
Ballyvaloo**

Fr. Brian will lead a retreat, open to all parishioners. The retreat will take place in Ballyvaloo, Retreat House, Co. Wexford

beginning Friday the 20 March and finishing Sunday afternoon the 22 March. The cost is €170. There are only 8 places left.

A golden opportunity for reflection and inspiration during Lent in a tranquil setting along the sea shore in Co. Wexford. Please leave your name and deposit of €50 in the Sacristy and sign the relevant sheet. For information contact Parish Office. 0858662255

WELLSPRINGS CENTRE LENTEN/NEIGHBOURHOOD RETREAT

Tuesday nights 7.30 – 9.15. Tuesday March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, 14th April. Retreatants meet once a week for the seven weeks of Lent. Cost €30€ - 8 weeks or €4 a night, concessions can be arranged. To book for the retreat at wellspringscentre@gmail.com

The Living Spirit - And then God allows some of us to fall more severely and painfully than ever before - or so it seems. And then we (not all of whom are wise) think it was a waste at time have started at all. It is not so, of course. We need to fall, and we need to realise this. If we never fell we should never know how weak and wretched we are in ourselves; nor should we fully appreciate the astonishing love of Maker. In Heaven we shall really and eternally see I that we sinned grievously in this life: yet despite all this, we shall also see that it made no difference at all to God's love and we were no less precious in God's sight. By the simple fact that we fell we shall gain a simple and wonderful knowledge of what God's love means. love that cannot, will not, be broken by sin is rocklike. Another benefit is the sense of insignificance and humbling that we get by seeing ourselves fall. Through it as we know we shall be raised up to Heaven.

We are hoping to paint the interior of Straffan Church. We are appealing to parishioners to financially support this cause. 'Percy Pig' is outside Straffan Church this weekend for all who wish to contribute to it. For those who wish to make a donation to it later please place your donation in an envelope with St. Brigid's Church Painting fund and place it in any of the collections next weekend



Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

This Sacrament one of the seven Sacraments of the Church will be offered to those who are suffering from illness. It is important to stress that it is not appropriate for those who are in good health to receive it.

The Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated during all the Masses this weekend.

A meeting of a small group of parishioners took place to reflect on the questions to be discussed at the next Synod of Bishops in Rome. Among the proposals we talked about were: 1. Developing community centred family faith groups. 2. Encouraging parishioners by way of visiting to welcome new residents on their streets. 3. To deepen our awareness that the church is a hospital for the wounded not a club for the perfect.

We hope to have another meeting and distribute a questionnaire to parishioners in the coming weeks. A big thank you to those who took part.

COME AND SEE THE IRISH CATHOLIC CATHECHISM FOR ADULTS

The Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults is a new resource from the Irish Bishops. Designed to complement the Catechism of the Catholic Church, it is adapted for an Irish audience and written in accessible, easy-to-understand language. This Catechism is a resource to facilitate adult faith development. The New Catechism is on view at a table at the front of the Altar. It costs €25. If you would like to order one put your name and telephone number on the sheet.

The Play and Pray at 11am Sunday morning Mass urgently need a few more volunteers to help with the energetic team who are helping the children to know Jesus better. Would you be willing to give an hour a month to this delightful service to our younger parishioners? If so please leave your name in the sacristy. 0858662255

Weekend Mass Intentions:

St Brigid's Church

Saturday 6pm: Maurice, Tom, Kathleen Power

Sunday 11am: Ted & Josie Donovan

Please pray for Declan Kearney

St. Patrick's Church:

Saturday 6.30pm: Peter Geraghty (m.m.)

Tommy Brennan

Sunday

8.30am Roseann & Joseph Ready

9.30am: Special Intention

11am: Eamonn McNally

12.30pm: Maureen & Charles Keating

7pm: Sheila McDonald

We offer our sympathy to the family of Liam Stanley who died this week at the age of 94. Liam was a faithful daily participant at our 10 o'clock morning Mass for many years. He was a hard worker and a keen golfer and is now we pray reunited in the communion of Saints with his beloved wife Mary who died 15 years ago. May he rest in peace.

This week for LENT

The Stations of the Cross. will be prayed after the 10am and 7pm Masses on Friday, and in St. Brigid's Church, Straffan after the 9.15am Mass on Friday.

Trocaire - Working for a just world. "The Church is likewise conscious of the responsibility which all of us have for our world, for the whole creation, which we must love and protect." Pope Francis

Trocaire boxes are available at the back of the Church.

LENTEN SCRATCH-OFF CALENDAR 2015 - Each day the parishioner scratch off the appropriate date on the Lenten Calendar to reveal a task to be undertaken for that day. These tasks are very simple and achievable and are related to the Gospel message of each day.

Parishioner donate €1 per card.

The parish will donate the monies received to a local charity. The €1 donation should be placed in the box in the centre of the Church.

Accord Dublin are anxious to recruit new volunteers to work in marriage preparation programmes.

If you would be interested to find out more there will be an information evening in **Lucan at St. Mary's Parish Centre Tuesday March 10th 8 - 9.30pm.**

Further information contact 4784400

Weekday Mass Intentions

Mon 2nd 10am Richard Ivors

7pm Bernard Flynn

Tues 3rd 10am Geraldine Walsh

7pm Fr. Michael Buckley

Wed 4th 10am Josephine Galligan

7pm Michael McHugh

Thur 5th 10am David Burchall

7pm Special intention

Fri 6th 10am Altar list of the dead

7pm Altar list of the dead

Sat 7th 10am Special intention

What is Climate Justice?

Climate change is the greatest injustice of our time. The people who are suffering the most from climate change have done the least to cause it.

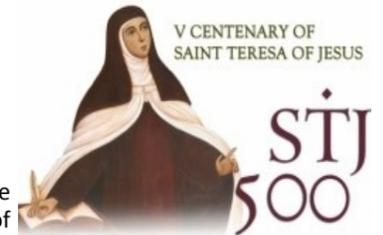
Climate change has been caused by rises in global temperatures as a result of carbon emissions from highly industrialised rich countries. Yet, these countries have so far failed to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and their impact on the climate in poor, vulnerable countries. Africa produces an estimated 3% of global carbon emissions, yet all over the continent the poorest communities are getting hit hardest by the effects of climate change. By contrast, the average person in Ireland is responsible for emitting 8.8 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year - 88 times the amount of the average Ugandan. People in the developing world are struggling to survive in the face of drought, storms and floods caused by climate change. Rains are becoming more erratic and extreme weather more common. Year after year crops are failing and the hungry season is extending. This is a silent emergency. Keeping global warming below 2 degrees Celsius is the only option to prevent climate change from worsening to catastrophic levels. If carbon emissions continue to increase as usual, global temperature rise will continue uncontrolled, devastating the food production, water supplies and health of people already suffering greatly because of climate change.

Trócaire believes it doesn't have to be this way. Together we can tackle the injustice of climate change and make the transition to a more sustainable and equitable world. We can stand together. We can speak up. We can consume in more sustainable ways and we can support the poorest people in adapting to climate change. Globally, the fight against runaway climate change is at a critical point. A series of major UN negotiations are currently taking place where world leaders are working towards a global climate change agreement on reducing carbon emissions.

St Teresa of Avila

Fifth Centenary Celebrations

1515 - 2015



March 28th this year marks the 500th anniversary of the birth of Saint Teresa of Avila. Her writings on the journey of the soul into God (especially 'The Interior Castle') are acknowledged as masterpieces on the spiritual life. In 1970, Pope Paul VI declared Teresa to be a Doctor of the Universal Church (the first woman to be given this title). It means her teaching has significance for all Christians.

Fr Kevin (who wrote his Masters Thesis on Saint Teresa) will lead a four-night journey into aspects of her teaching. This will take place on Thursday evenings in March (5, 12, 19, 26) in Wellsprings (Convent), from 8 pm — 9.30 pm. (including the cup of tea)! A donation of €20 is suggested for the four nights. All are welcome.

Evening Pro Life Event - Stand Against Media Bias

7- 8pm 11th March outside Dáil Éireann

Challenging Media Bias & Groupthink.

Did you know that 33 articles appeared in the national media pushing a pro abortion line and only one pro life item.