



The Catholic Parish  
of  
Celbridge  
and  
Straffan



**Priests of the Parish:**

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Sacristy 10 –12.30 6275942. **Parish website:** [www.celstra.ie](http://www.celstra.ie)

**PLANNED GIVING:** (weekly envelope collection) €2030. Thanks to all the collectors and contributors.

**Amid the pomp, a prayer" ....It will be remembered for its pageantry, crowds and wedding dress. But at the heart of the day for Prince William and Catherine Middleton was the Anglican wedding service in Westminster Abbey. Here we reproduce the sermon of the Bishop of London, who spoke of the meaning of marriage**

Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire." So said St Catherine of Siena whose festival day this is. Marriage is intended to be away in which man and woman help each other to become what God meant each one to be, their deepest and their truest selves. Many people are fearful for the future of today's world but the message of the celebrations in this country and far beyond its shores is the right one - this is a joyful day! It is good that people in every continent are able to share in these celebrations because this is, as every wedding day should be, a day of hope. In a sense, every wedding is a royal wedding with the bride and groom as king and queen of Creation, making a new life together so that life can flow through them into the future. William and Catherine, you have chosen to be married in the sight of a generous God who so loved the world that he gave himself to us in the person of Jesus Christ. In the spirit of this generous God, husband and wife are to give themselves to each other. The spiritual life grows as love finds its centre beyond ourselves. Faithful and committed relationships offer a door into the mystery of spiritual life in which we discover this: the more we give of self, the richer we become in soul; the more we go beyond ourselves in love, the more we become our true selves and our spiritual beauty is more fully revealed. In marriage we are seeking to bring one another into fuller life. It is of course very hard to wean ourselves away from self centeredness'. People can dream of such a thing but that hope should not be fulfilled without a solemn decision that, whatever the difficulties, we are committed to the way of generous love. You have both made your decision today - "I will" - and by making this new relationship, you have aligned yourselves with what we believe is the way in which life is spiritually evolving, and which will lead to a creative future for the human race. We stand looking forward to a century which is full of promise and full of peril. Human beings are confronting the question of how to use wisely the power that has been given to us through the discoveries of the last century. We shall not be converted to the promise of the future by more knowledge, but rather by an increase of loving wisdom and reverence, for life, for the earth and for one another. Marriage should transform, as husband and wife make one another their work of art. It is possible to transform so long as we do not harbour ambitions to reform our partner. There must be no coercion if the Spirit is to flow; each must give the other space and freedom. Chaucer, the London poet, sums it up in a pithy phrase: "Whan maistrie [mastery] comth, the God of Love anon, Beteth his wynges, and farewell, he is gon." As the reality of God has faded from so many lives in the West, there has been a corresponding inflation of expectations that personal relations alone will supply meaning and happiness in life. This is to load our partner with too great a burden. We are all incomplete: we all need the love which is secure, rather than oppressive. We need mutual forgiveness in order to thrive. As we move towards our partner in love, following the example of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit is quickened within us and can increasingly fill our lives with light This leads on to a family life which offers the best conditions in which the next generation can receive and exchange those gifts which can overcome fear and division and incubate the coming world of the Spirit, whose fruits are love and joy and peace. I pray that all of us present and the many millions watching this ceremony and sharing in your joy today will do everything in their power to support and uphold you in your new life. I pray that God will bless you in the way of life you have chosen. That way which is expressed in the prayer that you have composed together in preparation for this day: "God our Father, we thank you for our families; for the love that we share and for the joy of our marriage. In the busyness of each day, keep our eyes fixed on what is real and important in life and help us to be generous with our time and love and energy. Strengthened by our union, help us to serve and comfort those who suffer. We ask this in the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen."

**St. Patrick's Church Celbridge:** Vigil Sat 7pm, Sunday: 8.30am, 10am, 11.15am, 12.30 & 7pm.

**Week day Mass** 10am & 7pm

**St Brigid's Church Straffan:** Vigil Sat. 6pm, Sunday 11am.

**Week day Mass** 10am

**Confessions: Celbridge:** Saturday 10.30am. **Straffan** Saturday 5.30pm

**Baptisms:** St Patrick's Church – Sunday 2pm St Brigid's Church. Last Sunday of the month at 12.15pm

**Pre- Baptism meetings** Tuesday 8pm in St. Patrick's Church. To book contact Myles 01 6275942.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament :** Every Friday morning after 10am Mass in St Patrick's and St. Brigid's Church until 11.30am.

**Mass Intentions:**

**St Brigid's Church: Saturday** 6pm John Cully **Sunday** 11am. Aloysius and Ignatius Cribbin.

**St Patrick's Church: Saturday:** 7pm Kathleen Greene, **Sunday** 8.30am Kathleen and James Hayden, 10am Breda Cummins, 11.15am Paddy Donegan, 12.30pm Mark Grennell, Tom Nolan, 7pm Jim Brady.

**16th** 10am Deceased Maher and O'Brien families, 7pm Diarmuid O'Brien, **17th** 10am Jack, Chrissie, Kathleen McNally and deceased family, 7pm Patrick and Mary Core, **18th** 10am Imelda Kavanagh, 7pm Anne and David Greene, **19th** 10am Mamie White, 7pm Michael Joyce, Kay Sidi, **20th** 10am Daniel Meegan, 7pm James Browne and deceased family.

*We welcome into our faith community the children baptised recently : Eve Connolly, Tadhg McColgan, Sophie Fagan, Emma Kiely and Caoimhe Carey.*

**Parish Census:** Between now and the summer we are having a complete census of the Parish. This is very important as it will let us know those who wish to be considered members of the Church and it will help us plan for the future in terms of Masses, Sacraments, Education in Faith and Pastoral Care.

The Parish will require volunteers to prepare the packs for distribution and also to distribute the packs during census week. If you would be available to help in any way please contact the Parish office: email [celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com) or phone 016288827.

**Recently deceased:** Eugene O'Sullivan. We offer our sympathy to Jo the wife of Eugene and his two sons David, and Martin. Eugene was a faithful member of our parish over many years and he and Jo shared 59 years of happy married life. He entered into eternal life on his 84th birthday. Throughout his life he retained a wide circle of friends, and a great sense of fun and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

**Celbridge & Straffan Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2011.** Five nights departing on the 10th August and returning on the 15th August. Staying at The Hotel Solitude. Cost is €719 per person sharing. Full board. Single supplement of €30 per night. Cost may be paid weekly from now until mid July. Deposit required when booking. For further information please contact Liam White on 086 0487010.

**Upcoming Events**

**Tuesday 17th May.** Enjoy the music "Maytime Melodies" in the Hermitage Golf Club in aid of Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross. Tickets €10. Raffle.

**Sunday 22nd May,** Cake Sale will be held after all the mass's, starting from 9.30am in St. Brigid's School yard, in aid of the Niall Mellon Township Trust.

**Abbey Art group** exhibition "Summertime" is being held in the Slip Hall Castletown gates Fri. 20th May 7.30-9.30 and continuing Sat 21st 10-5pm, Sun 22nd 11-5pm. collection of watercolour, acrylic and oil paintings by local artists. Supporting Christ Church fund-raising event. Plant and cake sale Saturday Mayfair 10-3pm. All families welcome.

**Annual May Procession in honour of Our Lady.**

will take place directly at 4pm on Sunday 15th May concluding with Benediction in the Church. Please come along and join in, especially First Holy Communion and Confirmation Children.

**St Joseph's Young Priests Society**

Monthly meeting will take place on Wednesday 18th May 2011 in the meeting room beside the Sacristy, directly after the 7pm evening Mass. New members very welcome.

**Soulworks:**

Church of Ireland Hall by the gates of Castletown  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – 8.00pm Do you play in a Band, Sing Solo?  
If so, we're Looking For Musicians of all types, Experienced or Beginners and anyone who enjoys live music to play up to three songs Friends, family and fans are encouraged to attend for an enjoyable evening with showcases of some great talent! Refreshments available. If you would like to perform please contact Brian at 086 8250296 or [brian@ymca-ireland.org](mailto:brian@ymca-ireland.org) Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/YMCASoulworks/314112925931>

**FOOTPRINTS GOSPEL MASS**  
Every Saturday 7pm

**14<sup>th</sup> May: VOCATION NIGHT**  
"Called by Name"  
Celebrating the vocation we all have

**21<sup>st</sup> May: EXAM NIGHT**  
"What Dreams May Come"  
Remembering those who are preparing for, or in the middle of, Exams.



**CHILDREN'S CORNER**

**The Regina Caeli** is said or sung in place of the Angelus during the Easter season, from Holy Saturday through Pentecost Sunday.

*Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia: For He whom you merited to bear, alleluia, Has risen as He said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia.*

*V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.*

*R. Because the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.*

Let us pray: O God, who by the Resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, granted joy to the whole world: grant *we beseech* Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord. R. Amen.