

Farewell to Fr. Kevin will take place this Sunday after the 12.30pm Mass. The Mass and the social gathering afterwards will give us all the opportunity to give thanks for his time here with us and affirm him as he takes up his new role in Newcastle.

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES

From Monday October 30th there will be no more 7pm weekday evening Masses. The weekday Mass Times will be 10am St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge, 9.15am St. Brigid's Church, Straffan. The Monday evening Devotions to the Divine Mercy and Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and Thursday Hour of Prayer for Life will continue. There will be an evening Mass on the First Friday of each month at 7pm. If you have booked an anniversary Mass for 7pm after October 30th please contact the parish office to re-arrange the time.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

Fostering a Culture that Protects Life and Respects Women

There is currently a campaign to remove Article 40.3.3 (the pro-life article) from the Constitution of Ireland. It is exactly fifty years since the 1967 Abortion Act was passed in England, Scotland and Wales. Abortion, though less available in Ireland than in the UK, is lawful under certain circumstances on both sides of the border. As we face the immediate challenge here in Ireland, and mark the fifty years since the passing of the 1967 Act on the neighbouring island, we are drawn to reflect, to pray and to offer practical and emotional support to those in need. We pray especially for those who have lost a child and for those who are concerned about their pregnancy.

Loss: The joy of a couple at the prospect of becoming parents gives way to despair if the mother suffers a miscarriage or their baby is stillborn. Caroline miscarried her sixth baby, Raphael, in the fourteenth week of pregnancy in 2013. She and her husband asked their priest to conduct a funeral and a burial. 'Actually doing something to mark our loss was so healing. It was a reminder that the baby was a real person. Naming the baby was important too. The way we see it, we have a child ahead of us in heaven praying for us.' Grief can also be associated with having an abortion. Laura, who had an abortion at eight weeks, describes the moment, years later, when she acknowledged she had ended a life. It happened when she saw a group of primary school children and realised that her baby would have been the same age. Her next step was to go to Confession. She says, 'Understanding the truth of abortion is just the beginning. With absolution, the weight of shame and guilt is lifted forever.'

Compassion: Pope Francis, reminding us of the consistent teaching of the Church, describes abortion as a grave sin. As a compassionate pastor, however, he reminds priests that they are called to be ministers of God's mercy. He also points out that we have not done enough to support pregnant women in desperate situations who see abortion as a quick solution.

A future: Jenny could see no future for herself and her baby when she found herself pregnant, homeless and in debt. But she sought help and was given a room in a house run by a local pro-life charity, Life Housing, where she now lives with her son, Oliver. The local Catholic parish provided baby clothes, toys and Christmas presents, and a local charity gave a pram and other equipment. She received help to clear her debts and soon mother and baby will move into their first home, a fully furnished two-bedroom house. When Jenny was at her most vulnerable, discovering she was not alone saved her life, and Oliver's.

For forty years Cura has been providing free support services for woman and for men, during pregnancy, after the birth and after abortion. For information on its locations and services, please see www.cura.ie and/or local 1800 622 626. Day for Life is celebrated yearly by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England & Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The gift of a new child, begins with acceptance, continues with lifelong protection and has as its final goal the joy of eternal life. By serenely contemplating the ultimate fulfilment of each human person, parents will be even more aware of the precious gift entrusted to them. For God allows parents to choose the name by which he himself will call their child for all eternity. (Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia, 166)

ROSARY AT GROTTTO. The Rosary will be recited on the Fridays of October at 7.30pm (after the 7pm Mass). It will begin on the 6th. October 2017. at Our Lady's Grotto, Celbridge Road. All welcome to come along and recite the Rosary to fulfil Our Lady's wishes to say the Rosary. Legion of Mary.

Renovations Appeal

WINDOW OF OPPURTUNITY

Tenders for the Renovation work in both St. Patrick's Church and St. Brigid's Church are finalized. They will not stay valid for too long.

I am warmly appealing to you to support our Special Building Appeal for these projects so that work can be completed within the next 12 months.

In order to proceed with the works the Diocese requires us to have 80% of the cost pledged or to hand.



There are a number of options or combination of support for these capital works.

- (1) A donation would be appreciated.
- (2) To pay €25 per month for 2 years by direct debit. **(Green forms are available from the back of the Church)**
- (3) To lend €1000 or €500 to the parish to fund the work for three years after which your loan will be repaid to you.

We look forward to your support and if you can have any questions or suggestions please feel welcome to contact the parish at celbridge-parishoffice@gmail.com or call 01-6288827.

Thank you to all you have donated, loaned or signed up to the direct debit in the last number of weeks.

Weekly Parish Lotto

The profit from our Parish Lotto will go to developing our Parish and its outreach.

The prize fund is now **€7750** and will increase weekly until won. The lotto envelopes are available at the back of the church in St. Patricks and on the top of the safe in St. Brigid's beside the confessional.

One line (you pick four numbers between 0-30) at just €2, 3 lines cost €5.

This weeks numbers are First Jackpot: 6,23,7,3
Second Jackpot: 11,27,28,20

No winners of our 1st or 2nd Jackpot but our 3 consolation prize winners are:



Mary Heaney, Kathleen Price, Mary Kenny

Our next draw will take place on Monday evening.

Please have your lotto envelopes submitted before 10.30am on Monday

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

- Mon 2nd 10am:** O'Neill & Noonan Families **7pm:** Lorraine Hughes
- Tues 3rd 10am:** Margaret Shelley, Olive Coogan **7pm:** Jim Murray
- Wed 4th 10am:** Niall McCann **7pm:** Patrick Giblin
- Thur 5th 10am:** Margaret Collins, Ignatius & Elizabeth Chukwunye **7pm:** Bridget Burchall
- Fri 6th 10am:** Altar List of the Dead **7pm:** Altar List of the Dead
- Saturday 7th 10am:** Special Intention

Weekly Hour of Prayer for Life every Thurs 7.30pm-8.30pm. This weekly hour of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament invites us to pray for an end to all violence, injustice and neglect which threaten human flourishing. After 45mins of silent prayer we will pray the Night Prayer of the Church and finish with Benediction.

Weekend Mass Intentions

- St. Brigid's Church**
- Saturday 6pm:** Bridie Dempsey
- Sunday 11am:** Bernadette O' Shea
- St. Patrick's Church**
- Saturday 6.30pm:** Elizabeth Shanahan, William & Margaret Heaney
- Sunday 8.30am:** Roseann & Joseph Ready
- 9.30am:** Elizabeth Harmon
- 11am:** Patrick Swayne
- 12.30pm:** Tom, Lena & Mary McHale, Kay Cassidy
- 7pm:** Special Intention

Celebrating Significant Wedding Anniversaries (World Meeting of Families 2018)

If you were married in 1992, 1977, 1967, 1957 or 1947 you are invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving in a number of Parish Churches on Sunday 15th October, celebrating with those who are marking Silver, Ruby, Golden, Diamond and Platinum Wedding Anniversaries. This is also for people who are widowed.

Celebrations take place in Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Mourne Road, Drimangh, at 12.00 noon, in St. Gabriel's Parish, Dollymount at 10.30am; in St. Brigid's Church, Blanchardstown also at 10.30am; in Holy Redeemer in Bray at 12 noon and in the Church on the Holy Family Aughrim Street at 11.30am and Saint Jude's Church, Willington – 11.30am.

Full details here <http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Resources/Preparatory-Events/A-Mass-of-Thanksgiving-with-Renewal-of-vow> We look forward to meeting everyone and there will be light refreshments served afterwards.