



Planned Giving - weekly envelope collection was €2568.45 Thanks to all who contributed to the standing orders and the P.G

At all Masses in **Straffan** this weekend Tomás, one of our younger parishioners who will be attending World Youth Day in Panama in January will speak . There will be a leaving collection at the Church doors to support him.

Wellsprings Centre Advent Reflections. SURPRISED BY GOD Monday Dec 3rd,10th,17th Time 7.30 – 9.00

Carol Service in Straffan Church: There will be a Carol Service in Straffan Church on Sunday 16th December at 5pm. Featuring St Brigid's Church Choir and the Children's Choir from St Brigid's National School, Straffan. Some local guests will also be participating on the night, all are welcome.

Crosscare Annual Parish Food Appeal

Archbishop Martin is once again seeking support for a Parish Food Appeal this weekend to support the work of the Crosscare Foodbanks. The generosity of parishioners in last year's food appeal meant that 10,000 emergency hampers were distributed to those most in need before Christmas. Crosscare work with many individuals and families throughout the Archdiocese who are struggling to make ends meet. The Food Banks provide support with essential food and household items.

Items that are most needed at this time are:

- A. Toiletries and cleaning products
- B. Non-perishable food
- C. Festive food

Thanks for your support.

For your attention: Next Saturday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass times in Celbridge are: Friday (vigil) 7pm and Saturday 10am. Mass in Straffan will be Saturday morning 9.15am.

Christmas is not the same for everyone. The **annual SVP Christmas Appeal** will replace the Share Collection next weekend (8th & 9th Dec). Many people in our community are less fortunate than some. No money for food – no money for heat - no money for bills. Peace, joy, family and celebration are replaced with worry, stress and fear of disappointment. Please help your local St Vincent de Paul to assist in making Christmas special by giving generously to our 'in Church' collection or send a donation from social or workplace fundraising events to SVP c/o Celbridge Parish Office, Main Street, Celbridge. All proceeds will go to those in need.

There will be no SVP monthly Church Collection this weekend.

Please Support our Weekly Parish Lotto

The profit from our Parish Lotto goes to developing our Parish
The prize fund is now at **€1500** The lotto envelopes can be placed in the safe at the back of the Church in St. Patricks & St. Brigid's and the collection bags at the week-end Masses.

You pick four numbers between 1 -30

One line at just €2, 3 lines cost €5.

This weeks numbers are First Jackpot: 16,17,3,21

Second Jackpot: 27, 4, 15, 30.

No winners of 2nd Jackpot but our 3 consolation prize winners:

Dan Brady, Stephen Molloy, Jack Murphy

Prizes can be collected in the Sacristy during weekend Mass times.

Prizes have to be collected within 30 days of the draw.

Our next draw will take place on Monday evening.

Please have your lotto envelopes submitted before 10.30am on Mondays

The **Christmas Mass Cards** are on sale in the Sacristy and from the Parish Office. They cost €5 each. The intentions for both the living and the deceased will be remembered at all the Masses on Christmas eve and Christmas day (12 Masses).

Advent Wreath Candle—1st Sunday - let us live honourably as in the day, ... not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ ... Romans 13:11-14

For us, God has replaced our mourning with the oil of gladness, so we light this first candle which is purple and name it ... **"HOPE"**.

Remembering a loved one at Christmas in aid of The Abbey Community Project.

This service is run on a voluntary basis from the Eustace Centre, offering support to individuals and their families seeking assistance with issues pertaining to substance abuse, homelessness and other areas of mental health. We engage with people as they present and have a six day drop - in centre in operation.

Please help support our fund raising event by sponsoring a star in memory of a loved one this Christmas. Pick up a special envelope in St. Patrick's Church from Tuesday 4th. The lighting of the tree will take place on Saturday 15th December St. Patrick's Church after 6.30pm Mass. Carols will be sung

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

Mon 3rd 10am: Dick, Annie, Paddy & Peggy Bolger

Tue 4th 10am: Moynihan & Doyle Families, Annette Moore

Wed 5th 10am: Special intention, Noeleen Geraghty, Maria Agbom

Thur 6th 10am: Thomas Shanahan, Michael & Mark Cotter, Brendan Hennigan

Fri 7th 10am: Altar list of the dead **7pm** Altar list of the dead

Sat 8th: 10am: Elizabeth Maher, James Teague,

Weekend Mass Intentions

St. Brigid's Church

Saturday 6pm: Special intention

Sunday 11am: Deceased members of Straffan GAA, James Alexandra

St. Patrick's Church

Sat: 6.30pm: Frank Finucane (1st anniv), Pat Heerey (1st anniv), John Keegan, Eileen Ferguson

Sunday: 8.30am: Esther & Tom Dignam, Gerry & Sheila Ryan, Patrick, Elizabeth & Patrick Jnr Kelly , Monica O'Neill

9.30am: Michael & Phyllis Grant, Frank Kelly

11am: Sean O' Donovan, Sean, Sheila & Jimmy O' Donohoe

12.30pm: Birdie Hickey, Gerry O' Leary, Dorrie Preston

7pm: Baby Tiarnán Brabazon Carton

Notes on The Parish Pastoral Council Gathering held in Scoil Brid School Hall on 19th November 2018

Pastoral Life in the Parish - building a sense of community and vision of our Parish.

Parish Life:

Care - Prayer - Formation - Celebration - Community Life

Care:- for the sick - bereaved - homeless - vulnerable

Prayer: - retreats - missions - groups - reflecting together (this is not about 'saying prayers')

Formation - Christian parents - resourcing - accompanying

Celebration- Sunday Mass - Sacraments - Liturgy - Services

Community Life:- social- friendship - companions - out reach

Discussion & Feedback:

- Outreach for everyone not just Catholics. • Celebration of the Eucharist should be centre part of the mission. Go out and spread the good news. • Welcome ministry - welcome is a must, not just looking for money to support the parish. Church of Ireland do 'welcome ministry' very well. • Each of the Community Life elements - then you will care for each other and the community groups. • Formation of the young people - outreach to the young. • Care - done in isolation - not coming together - structures needed. Hospitality.
- Formation is left to the schools - needs when the young leave school- home involvement is very important. • Example given of other parish split into different areas e.g. ABCD for networking purposes and getting to know each other on a small scale, then feeding into the whole parish. • Formation and Prayer at every level for the future and the faith journey.

What are we called to be ? A faith filled community co -responsible partners in Mission

Faith Filled - Co-Responsibility - Partners - In Mission

Faith Filled: Grounded and rooted in prayer. A Group that listens to the voice of the Holy Spirit, community and the church. From this discernment actions flow.

Co-Responsibility: We are all responsible for the mission of the church. A call from baptism and all called to play our part.

We are responsible TO and FOR one another. Build up care.

Partners: Ordained and lay - young and old - men and women - working together for the Kingdom. Implies equality - complementarity - communication - using our groups for the good of the Parish.

In Mission: A sense of being sent. Moving outwards. Keeping the focus on Jesus and His Kingdom. Growth & Development. Pope Francis - reaching out to the margins and the peripheries.

Discussion & Feedback: • Loads of energy and interest - partnerships and positive communication is necessary for groups to work.

Too negative leads to chance of cliques forming - responsibility TO and FOR. Groups form and their challenge is to widen participation.

Communication, especially positive communication, is an enormous challenge for a parish of our size.

Faith, what it means to be a Catholic - importance of gathering and worshipping.

Also discussed young people - they feel not listened to by the Church - feel that when they speak out, they are ignored. It has to start with young people - getting young people involved - keeping the Church going.

3 P's -Prayer - Partnership - Planning:

Prayer:- Prayerfulness, less about saying prayers.

Partnership:- This is the heart of working well. The PPC widens participation in Parish Life. This happens by effective partnerships with a range of parish groups. Working together becomes a way of being together - Partners Take Part!

Planning:- Identifying issues - gathering information -listing options - seeking consensus -inviting participation - forming sub groups - formulating development plans - revisiting and reconsidering - have strategic plans i.e. short term, medium term and long term goals.