



Planned Giving - weekly envelope collection amount was €1064.42. Thanks to all who contributed through the standing orders and the Planned Giving. Thanks also to the collectors and counters.

RONCALLI RANT 3.

In our Pizza and Poetry offering this week we have given the first three stanzas from the Philip Larkin poem, 'Church going.' Every time I read it I am caught by the lines:

'Their parchment plate and pyx in locked cases
And let the rest rent-free to rain and sheep.'

How sad would that be? Imagine our churches became old museums. Relics of a former day. Remains of yesterday's glory. Imagine if the Gospels and the beautiful prayers of the Mass were all locked away, never used. If our communion plate or ciborium gathered dust and our pyx to bring communion to the sick and dying was never used. I think most of us would be sad to think of such a day. A day when the church would be redundant or dead.

Some people say the Church will not die because it's God's Church and he is always with it and will guide and protect it. Now there is a lot of truth in this. Central to our faith is the Lord, in and through the Church. Mary is the Mother of the Church. This is all true. Yet the Church has died in many parts of the world. Countries become secularized. Churches become crèches, cinemas, pubs...spa hotels!

Surely this will not happen in Ireland? Well there are some worrying signs. Lack of vocations, decrease in Mass attendance and many people no longer accept core teachings of the Church. There is a growing lack of respect for the sacred.

Yet here we are in the Parish of St. Patrick and St. Brigid. This is a strong and vibrant parish. There are many signs of life here. So many of you are obviously highly committed members of this beautiful faith community. In my brief few weeks here I have already been inspired by your dedication. In the changing face of the Irish Church what is the role of a healthy parish such as this?

My own life experience, including my time as a Religious Brother and latterly in my time as a Priest, has taught me that the Church at times has been responsible for a lot of harm, many people have been hurt by the Church. The Church can still be abusive. However it is the Church that I love. The Church is still beautiful. It is at its best, and most beautiful, when it models itself on Jesus. When the Church is in harmony with Christ then it proclaims the loving compassionate heart of our God. However the Church is always in danger of becoming self seeking, of abusing power and of becoming corrupt.

It is because of this that the Church is always in need of reform and renewal. Reform is not a bad word. The source of true reform and renewal is the Holy Spirit. We are called to be open to the same Spirit and how we might be part of the ongoing reform and renewal of the Church. This will often take the form of true sorrow for past institutional wrongs and resolve to do better.

The Holy Spirit is constantly renewing, refreshing and recreating. It is in the same Spirit that we discover anew the joy of knowing Jesus and in this we will find new ways of being Church and proclaiming the kingdom of God. This is what my initiative, the Roncalli Community is all about.

More anon. Fraternally, Joe McD

Mass Times: St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge: Saturday (Vigil) 6.30 pm, Sunday: 8.30am, 9.30am, 11am, 12.30pm & 7pm.

Weekday Mass: 10am **Holy Days:** 10am, 7pm. **Bank Holidays:** 10am. **Confessions:** Saturday after 10am Mass

Mass Times St Brigid's Church, Straffan Saturday (Vigil) 6pm. Sunday 11am **Weekday Mass** 9.15am

Confessions on Saturday before 6pm Mass **Adoration Friday Mornings after Mass for an hour.**

Parish Office hours Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm. (Closed Wednesday) **Contact Details:** 01 6288827 / 0858662255

Email: celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com. **Parish website:** www.celstra.ie **Sacristy:** 6275942 (Mass times)

Weekend Mass Intentions

St. Brigid's Church

Saturday 6pm: Rose & Hugh Breen

Sunday 11am: Ellen & John McKenna, Bernadette O' Brien, Barry Allen

St. Patrick's Church

Sat: 6.30pm: Martin Brophy (m.m), Frank Finnucane, Phyllis Greene

Sun: 8.30am: John Magee

9.30am: Niall Power, Power, Lynch, & Greene families

11am: Ken Monaghan, Lily Kelly, Donal Moynihan (m.m.)

12.30pm: Jim McGauran, Brendan Fox (1st anniv), Tomas Foley

7pm: Francis & Patricia Lee, John Snr & John Jnr Fitzsimons

PIZZA & POETRY

Church Going

Once I am sure there's nothing going on
I step inside letting the door thud shut.
Another church: matting seats and stone
and little books; sprawlings of flowers cut
For Sunday brownish now; some brass and stuff
Up at the holy end; the small neat organ;
And a tense musty unignorable silence
Brewed God knows how long. Hatless I take off
My cycle-clips in awkward reverence

Move forward run my hand around the font.
From where I stand the roof looks almost new-
Cleaned or restored? someone would know: I don't.

Mounting the lectern I peruse a few
hectoring large-scale verses and pronounce
'Here endeth' much more loudly than I'd meant
The echoes snigger briefly. Back at the door
I sign the book donate an Irish sixpence
Reflect the place was not worth stopping for.

Yet stop I did: in fact I often do
And always end much at a loss like this
Wondering what to look for; wondering too
When churches fall completely out of use
What we shall turn them into, if we shall keep
A few cathedrals chronically on show
Their parchment plate and pyx in locked cases
And let the rest rent-free to rain and sheep.
Shall we avoid them as unlucky places?

CHILD PROTECTION: Our Parish encourages the participation of children and young people in parish liturgies. The welfare of the child is always paramount. The Dublin Diocese Director of the Child Protection service is Mr. Andrew Fagan 01 8360314. Our parish child protection officers are Maureen Giblin, Alan Stirling, Abike Odofin and can be contacted through the parish office.

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

Mon 23rd 10am: John McEvoy, Thresiamma Jose

Tue 24th 10am: Mary Murray, Mary Sheridan

Wed 25th 10am: Margaret Campbell

Thur 26th 10am: May Ivers

Fri 27th 10am: Edward McKenna & deceased family members

Sat 21st 10am: Breda Lynam, Patrick & Jim Plunkett

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed in St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge on Thursday night from 7pm - 8pm. The focus is on the coming together to give God praise and to intercede for the sacredness of Life. Please be part of this prayer initiative.

Legion of Mary.

The legion of Mary is a lay organisation of Catholics who meet in the St. Eustace Centre, Celbridge every Monday night @ 7pm. New people are always welcome. Contact Marion:08721.90429. Margaret: 0876306598

Concert at St. Brigid's Church Straffan, Saturday 5th October, 2019, entitled "Music from the Heart", consisting of many popular musical, film and operatic melodies. Presented by Kathryn Smith Soprano, Antoinette Heery Mezzo Soprano, Barbara Dunne and Adrian Scahill- Piano and Organ, and Damien Morrissey, Clarinet. Ticket only event. Tickets available after 12.30 Mass in Celbridge, and after all Masses in St. Brigid's Church, Straffan. For further information please 0872 519 771. Doors open at 7.10pm, concert commences at 7.30 sharp.

ADVANCE NOTICE: PET BLESSING SERVICE

Sunday 6th October at 3.30pm @ Christ Church (Castletown gates)

Our Pets are a blessing to us. Join us in blessing them. Refreshments will be available for all pets and their owners

In the interests of safety we would ask that all dogs be kept on a lead and smaller animals in appropriate pet carriers

For further info email: stephen.neill@gmail.com

Mob: 087-2328172 or watch our parish Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/CSNLParish/> or Website: cs-nl.org

Please Support our Weekly Parish Lotto



The profit from our Lotto goes to developing our Parish

The prize fund is now at €3050

The lotto envelopes can be placed in the safe at the back of the Church in St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's & the collection bags at the Masses.

You pick four numbers between 1 - 30

One line just €2, 3 lines €5.

This week numbers were: 1st draw: 17,18, 2, 22. 2nd draw: 23, 20, 14, 30
3 consolation prize winners: Catherine Turley, Sean Ashe, Deborah Molloy

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 afternoon.

Envelopes must be submitted before 10.30am on Mondays