



*The Grouped Parishes of  
Booterstown and Carysfort with Mount Merrion*  
**St Philip & St James' Church  
& St Thomas' Church**



## **EASTER 2022 NEWSLETTER**



Part of the Lenten Display on the Altar/Communion Table.

### **Together Again**

For the first time since 2019, we are able to have people in church to celebrate Easter, which is wonderful and we look forward in anticipation to Easter Day. Already, to have people attend services in Holy Week has been a reminder that worship is not so much about the content but about gathering together. I recognise that some people are anxious about being together in indoor spaces and to help to make people comfortable, we have retained a 2-metre socially-distanced seating area in the North Transept of St Philip and St James' Church. Some families are anxious about their children, due to their mixing in schools, possibly bringing COVID to other, more vulnerable members of the congregation. All of this is understandable, as we try to find ways to connect with people and for people to feel that they can come to worship—details of how and when services are on, can be found on page 2.

### **Sunday Club**

We are really keen to get our Sunday Clubs back in action in September, and we need people to help lead them. Training for Sunday Club leaders, as well as Safeguarding Trust (child protection) training will be Provided and all leaders are required to be Garda vetted. So that training and all other requirements put in place, we need people to volunteer now. The more volunteers the better as it means that there can be a rota in place and the responsibilities are shared. The plan is to walk before we return to running(!) and to have Sunday Club once a month initially in both churches and to build from there. We would like to hear from you if you would be willing to help with either Sunday Club and we also want to hear from you if you would like your child(ren) to be a part of Sunday Club—please contact me.

### **Easter**

That first Easter was a dark time; a time of corruption, oppression, evil, violence. We now look at Good Friday with the lens of Easter Day but for those who were there, they didn't have that; all they could see, hear and understand was how terrible it was, because it was truly awful. The corruption, violence, evil, oppression, greed is echoed in our current time as we look in horror at our screens and see what is happening in Ukraine and in other parts of the world where people are oppressed, and in this State, with gangland crime, and with homophobic murders and attacks. We desperately want it to change, to be better. What happened that first Easter was beyond human capacity. It was God's love that transformed that first Easter and it is God's love and God's peace that will transform our world in our time. We too need something bigger than our mere humanity which at the same time works through human beings to change the darkness of our time. Easter is about the transformation of the worst and darkest of times to times of hope, possibility and light. Our prayer and hope is for transformation so that all may live in safety and security, and that all will be free to be who they truly are.

*Happy Easter to you all.*

*Gillian*



**Rector: The Reverend Canon Gillian Wharton**

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[www.booterstownchurch.ie](http://www.booterstownchurch.ie)

[www.mountmerrionchurch.ie](http://www.mountmerrionchurch.ie)

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkwQ9cDGC\\_RM0QNYtJBOM6A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkwQ9cDGC_RM0QNYtJBOM6A)

## SERVICES for APRIL – JUNE 2022

The two select vestries met jointly and gave careful consideration to all the points made by parishioners, and to various concerns such as those who are no longer able to go to church and who worship via the live-stream at the time that the service is on. It was felt that we should try to have it at time that would work for parishioners of both parishes, and for those who join us via the live-stream from nursing homes and other places of residential care, so we agreed to try having the service in St Philip and St James' Church at **11.00 - please note the time.** However, please note that we will have a united service for the Blessing of the Animals at **10.30 in St Philip and St James' Church on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of May (22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022).** The services times, etc. will be reviewed by both select vestries to see if it is working.

The organist, Charles Pearson, and I will be doing a speedy hop across the Stillorgan Road!!!

- We will continue to administer Holy Communion using the individual cups and little wooden blocks.
- We ask that people would sanitise their hands on entering the churches.
- The seating plans will no longer be in place but we ask that people would use all the space in both churches and respect that some people may need more space than others in order to feel comfortable. The North Transept in St Philip and St James' Church will be an area where people who wish to socially distance, may sit and be socially distanced from others.
- Whilst mask wearing is no longer mandated, people may feel more comfortable wearing a mask and especially for singing, which we really appreciate being able to do again. We do understand that mask-wearing for children can be particularly stressful and that they may not wear them.

### Worship for Easter Day and the rest of April



#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – Easter Day

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.00 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

**11.00** Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church, which will also be live-streamed.

***Ecumenical Sunrise Service***—Please note that there is no Ecumenical Sunrise Service this Easter. This is organised by the churches in the Sandymount area and we have always been delighted to join in, but for a variety of reasons, it is not happening this year, but I have been told that they very much hope to make it happen next year.



***Easter Egg Hunt***—there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children at the end of the 10.00 service in St Thomas' Church and at the end of the 11.00 service in St Philip and St James' Church on Easter Day.

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.00 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

**11.00** Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church, which will also be live-streamed.

# REGISTERS

## Holy Baptism

**Matthew MacLeod Stafford-Rogers** and **Kate Emily Stafford-Rogers**, the children of Conor Stafford and Tom Rogers were baptised on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in St Philip and St James' Church Booterstown. Matthew's and Kate's cousins, Naoise Knight and Georgia Knight did the readings. Matthew's and Kate's dads are their godparents. We wish Matthew and Kate every blessing on their journeys of faith.

**Polly Susan Craig**, the younger daughter of Hazel (née Ruane) and Jonathan Craig, and little sister of Elsie, was baptised in St Philip and St James' Church on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022. Polly's grannies, Fiona Ruane and Anne Craig did the readings at the service and her sister Elsie poured the water into the font. Polly's godparents are Gareth Craig and Andrew Felton. We wish Polly every blessing on her journey of faith.

**Amy Mary Henihan**, the daughter of Louise Priestman and Peter Henihan and sister of Louis, was baptised in St Thomas' Church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022. Her Granddad, Brian Priestman and her Granny, Frances Henihan did the readings and her brother, Louis, helped to pour the water into the font. Amy's godparents are Samantha Lawlor, Eimear Reilly and Kevin Walsh. We wish Amy every blessing on her journey of faith.

## Confirmation

Since October 2021, twenty teenagers have been preparing for confirmation. The confirmation for our parishes will be in Christ Church Taney on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 3pm. Please keep the candidates in your prayers: **Patrick Burns, Ralph Cogan, Sam Cole, Sam Dane, Chloe Hiles, Katie Hiles,**

**Joshua Killeen, Abigail Lyons, Theo Phelan, Alice Postma, Piers Postman, Alice Robinson, Iarla Rynhart, Hugo Sellers, Joshua Sherlock-Roberson, Ben Smyth, Anna Tuite, Rory Vaughan, Nicholas Vaughan, Scott Walker.**

## In Memoriam

**Blair Halliday** died in Wicklow Hospice on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Blackrock Hospice is undergoing a major refurbishment and whilst the Home Care Team is still operating out of Blackrock, in-patient services have been relocated to Wicklow Hospice and Harold's Cross Hospice. Blair's late wife Florrie was a faithful and loyal parishioner of St Philip and St James' Church, and whilst Blair had long been a member of Kill o' the Grange Parish, he was very much part of our parish family too. We extend our sympathy to his son Graham, his granddaughters Aimee and Clara, his brother Alan and all the family circle.

**William Henry (Harry) Thompson** died in Belmont House Nursing Home on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Harry served on the Select Vestry of St Philip and St James' Church and a churchwarden, duties he did with care and diligence. A highly acclaimed industrial engineer who invented a revolutionary method of chemical processing of fertilizers, Harry was also a lover of golf and practical jokes! Above all, he loved his family and it is to them that we extend our sympathy; to his wife of almost 67 years, Lois; his children Lesley and Jonathan, his son-in-law Ken and his grandchildren Bryan and Rebecca. Harry's private funeral took place in Colliers' Funeral Home on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022, and his ashes were interred in St Philip and St James' Garden of Remembrance on Holy Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

**Lorraine Cecile Bunbury née Begley:** Lorraine Bunbury died suddenly at home on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Her funeral took place in St Philip and St James' Church on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022 followed by cremation at Mount Jerome. We extend our sympathy to her daughter Nivek, her son-in-law Steven Dunne, her grandchildren Coco, Bear and Brooke, her sisters Jackie and Yvonne and the extended family, and her friends.

**James Paul Hillis** died at home on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Although Paul was a parishioner of Taney, he was also very much part of the parish family of St Thomas' Church, where his wife Sheila, their son Neil and his family are parishioners. They straddled both parishes and were involved and committed to both. Paul's funeral took place in Taney Church on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 followed by cremation. We extend our sympathy to Sheila, their sons Owen, Neil and Ian, and all the family circle.

## REGISTERS

**Margaret (Peggy) Louise Hodgins (née Power)** died in Kinvara Nursing Home, Bray, on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Peggy and her late husband, Jim, were long-serving parishioners of St Philip and St James' Church, serving the parish in many ways, not least, as Junior Superintendent and Senior Superintendent (respectively) of the Sunday School. Jim built The Rectory, and then the two semi-detached houses next to it on Cross Avenue, and he and Peggy and their family moved into the one furthest from The Rectory. From there, Peggy and Jim, were a hop, skip and a jump from St Philip and St James' Church, which was such a huge part of their lives. Peggy's funeral took place in St Philip and St James' Church on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 followed by cremation. We extend our sympathy to her daughter Janet, her son John, and all the family circle.

**George Ernest Reeves** died in St Vincent's University Hospital on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022. George and his late wife, Betty, were faithful parishioners of St Philip and St James' Church. George served on the Select Vestry and even after serving on the Vestry continued to look after the maintenance, etc. of St Philip and St James' Parish Centre. He loved the Parish Autumn Fair and was always 'on-the-gate' providing a warm welcome to all. A stroke meant that George had lived in the wonderful care of Leopardstown Park Hospital for over two years. George's funeral took place in St Philip and St James' Church on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022, followed by burial in Deansgrange Cemetery. We extend our sympathy to his daughters, Judy, Nicola and Síle and all the extended family.

**Olive Frances Bain (née Boles)** died in St Vincent's University Hospital on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022, following much appreciated care in Beechfield Manor Nursing Home in Bray. Olive and her late husband, Alan, were loyal parishioners of St Thomas' Church, where Olive is remembered, amongst other things, for her serving tea/coffee after church. Olive came from a family of pharmacists; both of her parents and all of her siblings, including Olive, were pharmacists. Olive's funeral took place in St Thomas' Church on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 followed by burial in Deansgrange Cemetery. We extend our sympathy to her daughter Sandra and son Derek, and their families, to her siblings Phyllis, John and David and their families.

### Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to:

Adrienne Czerwin-Abbott and her family on the death of her mother, Dolores Czerwin;  
Rachel McConnell and her family, and our Group Scout Leader, Lesley Rankin and her family on the death of The Rev. Vanessa Wyse-Jackson who was Rachel's cousin and Lesley's sister.

## THANK YOU FROM THE ALICE LEAHY TRUST and THE CAPUCHIN DAY CENTRE

In our two parishes, we have an ongoing working relationship over many years with **The Alice Leahy Trust**, and over the past five years with the **Capuchin Day Centre**. Both organisations do extraordinary work with the homeless individuals and families.

The Alice Leahy Trust provides medical and related services for people who are homeless. Up to 50 people (mostly men) call each morning, the majority of whom are sleeping out (aged 18-85 years). The Capuchin Day Centre provides breakfast and lunches each day in addition to food parcels, clothing, showers, supplies of baby items, etc.

In 2021, the school and the parishes gave an enormous amount of pot meals, etc. and new underwear, socks, scarves, hats and gloves to The Alice Leahy Trust, and they gave lots of non-perishable food items to the Capuchin Day Centre and car loads of new toys so that children who are homeless would receive a gift from Santa Claus. Both organisations were so appreciative of that support.

The work is ongoing and both organisations are always in need of:

*Jeans; track-suit bottoms; jumpers; water-proof jackets; strong, sturdy shoes; cup-a-soups, pot meals, mini-bars (chocolate, etc.), toiletries and NEW underwear and socks for men.*

In addition, **The Capuchin Day Centre** is always in need the following items:

*NEW underwear and socks for men, women and children, non-perishable food items; nappies and other baby items; female hygiene products.*

There are areas at the back of both churches where items can be left—these will then be taken into the **Alice Leahy Trust** and the **Capuchin Day Centre**.

Parishioners have been very generous over the years and it is very much appreciated. But please think carefully about the items that you donate; these items must be appropriate and suitable for people who are living on the streets. High-heel shoes, cocktail dresses, bikinis, etc. are all items that have been left at the back of our churches and these are **NOT** suitable.

# BOOTERSTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL



Our new Principal in Boosterstown National School, Emma Uí Shúilleabháin, joined us at the start of this term, on 6th January 2022. We are delighted to welcome Emma to the school. Already, it feels like that she has always been here! On behalf of the Board of Management, I warmly welcome her, and I also thank our Deputy Principal, Shameela Lyons, for her careful guiding of the school, as Acting Principal since the end of August 2021.

**Gillian Wharton**

*Chairperson, Board of Management*

We have had a very busy and exciting term. What a lovely time to be getting back to activities such as futsal, drama and school visits with our friends and classmates.

In March, we celebrated World book day by dressing up, engaging in special reading activities and receiving book tokens. We also celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge with an emphasis on speaking Irish through games, activities, songs and dance.

With the easing of restrictions we have been able to recommence activities with infant classes doing art and games with their big 5th and 6th buddies, while 1st and 2nd Classes have been doing reading buddies with 3rd and 4th Classes.

We've been blown away by the generosity of the school community fundraising for the Red Cross and Daffodil Day.

Thank you to the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) for all that they do to support the School. There was great excitement in the last week of term when a new Clavinova—a digital piano—arrived in the school.

This is now in our General Purpose Room which was redecorated over the mid-term break and is now looking very smart and has become our designated Music Room.

The PTA is having a School Fair on Sunday 22 May 2022 in the Parish Hall. This will take place after the Blessing of the Animals, and we would love to have lots of support for the Fair. This will be the first big event for the pupils, staff, parents and friends, that we will have been able to have in over 2 years, so we are really looking forward to it.

We have been delighted to recommence assembly in church and thank you to Ms Walker for preparing our Easter assembly. There was lots of excitement as the mysterious contents of special eggs were revealed in Ms Walker's telling of the Easter story!

On Friday 1 April 2022, we said 'goodbye' to Emma Nolan who covered Dee Langrell's Parental Leave since the end of August 2021, and we wish her well. Emma had been with us for the year 2020-2021, as she was the teacher who taught 5th and 6th Classes on the Principal's Administrative Day in the office each week. Welcome back to Dee Langrell who returned from Parental Leave on Monday 4 April 2022.

**Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.**

**Emma Uí Shúilleabháin**

*Principal*



## GENERAL SYNOD

This year, for the first time since 2019, the General Synod will meet in-person. The Assembly Buildings of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is the only venue that could accommodate the General Synod with 1-metre social distancing as the Church endeavours to make people attending General Synod feel comfortable and confident in doing so. The General Synod will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in the Assembly Buildings in Belfast.

The Rector has been a member of General Synod for a number of years (elected by the clergy of Dublin Diocese) and the Lay Diocesan Synod Members of Dublin have elected Stephanie Morris, Quentin Tegg, Gordon Richards and Marcus Daly to represent the Diocese on General Synod. The last elections for General Synod were held in 2020, and the five people from our parishes will serve on General Synod up to and including General Synod 2023. The next set of triennial elections will take place at the time of the Diocesan Synod in 2023, which is usually held in early October.



## **Daffodil Service and Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy**

Thank you to everyone who supported both the Daffodil Service in St Philip and St James' Church on 27th March 2022 and the Daffodil Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy afterwards in the Parish Centre. It was great to be able to have people at the service and to be able to have the Coffee Morning and the Bring-and-Buy. €1,500 was raised for the Irish Cancer Society and in addition, over €1,400 was raised by Booterstown National School on Friday 25th March 2022. Well done to everyone who helped and supported.

## **LENTEN CHALLENGE**



**or...**



**Gillian has increased her daily challenge from last year by 1km and is walking 6km every day of Lent 2022—all 46 days, including Sundays!!!!**

***Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2022***

*in aid of:*

**The Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association (IMNDA),  
Blackrock Hospice  
Ukrainian Relief (via the Bishops' Appeal)**

Building on last year's Lenten Challenge, where I suggested that rather than giving things up, that we could pull together as a parochial group for our mental, spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing and health, I am suggesting the same thing for this year. Two years of the pandemic have taken their toll.

The idea is to take up something that gives you a focus each day. Last year, people walked, cycled, scooted or ran. Some learnt the '*Jerusalema*' and danced it every day in Lent; others meditated or prayed for 15 minutes a day... it's up to you, but do something that benefits you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually, this Lent.

In addition, if people wish to make a donation, the money raised will be divided equally between the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association, Blackrock Hospice and Ukrainian Relief (via the Bishops' Appeal). Originally, the money raised was to be divided between the Irish Motor Disease Association, Blackrock Hospice and the Parishes, but with the invasion of Ukraine and the overwhelming needs of the Ukrainian people, the two select vestries at their respective meetings voted unanimously that the portion for the parishes should be given to Ukrainian relief via the Bishops' Appeal.

The Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association and the Blackrock Hospice are two charities that are close to our hearts in our parishes and both charities have supported, and continue to support, families in our parishes. Bishops' Appeal is a relief and development fund that is administered by the bishops of the Church of Ireland. The Bishops' Appeal works with local agencies that it is confident manage their resources with honesty and integrity and that the funds are channelled appropriately and to serve the need for which the money is donated.

So far, just over €5,000 has been donated which is fantastic! Thank you to all who have donated. Your generosity will make a difference.

*Continued on page 7/...*

## The Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association

The Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association is the only organisation of its kind in the country. It is dedicated to working on behalf of people living with MND and their families and carers. Our key services include home visits by our 4 MND nurses, financial assistance towards home help and the supply of specialised equipment on loan. We also fund and promote research into the causes and treatments of MND.



### THEIR AIM IS:

To encourage and promote the best methods of care, education, research and treatment for people with Motor Neurone Disease throughout Ireland, contributing to worldwide efforts in research and development of treatment. To establish and promote models of good practice in the delivery of specialised services to their patients, their families and carers, setting standards of excellence. To communicate widely, knowledge of Motor Neurone Disease and related disorders in order to raise awareness in the wider community.



**Harold's Cross  
Blackrock  
Wicklow**  
*Respite Rehabilitation Reassurance*

## Blackrock Hospice

For almost 20 years, Blackrock Hospice has been operating from its base in Sweetman's Avenue. During 2022, Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services is investing in significant renovations.

This work will ensure that Blackrock Hospice meets the needs of the community now and for the future. These changes will make real improvements to the care provided by Blackrock Hospice. However, the Hospice is closed during the renovation period which will have no impact on those being looked after in their own homes by the Home Care Team;

Out-patient appointments will be provided in 203 Merrion Road;

In-patients will be accommodated in either Harold's Cross or Wicklow Hospice according to their preference and availability.

The project will cost in the region of €6.5 million in fundraised income for which there is a current shortfall of €2 million.

If you wish to, you can help by sponsoring or donating to the Lenten Challenge.

You can make a donation by online banking to

**Boooterstown and Mount Merrion Account**

**IBAN: IE92ULSB 985330 00606072    BIC: ULSBIE2D**

or a cheque payable to *Boooterstown and Mount Merrion Account*

On Saturday 2 April 2022, parishioners Sheila Chamberlain, Adrienne Cole, Denise Richards, June Burgess, Sally Dunne, Ros Phillips, Denise Cole, Deirdre Kennedy and Mike Lee, joined Gillian on a 6km walk in solidarity with Charlie Bird's Campaign *Climb with Charlie*. In addition to walking with Charlie Bird,



IMNDA, one of the beneficiaries of his campaign is also one of the beneficiaries of the Lenten Challenge. Sheila Hillis very kindly met us and provided us with much appreciated water to refresh us at Boooterstown DART Station. A most enjoyable walk, helped too by coffee and hot chocolate at *The Bumble Bean Barista Coffee Van* in Blackrock Park!!



# Summer Fête

Mount Merrion Select Vestry had to make a decision in March 2022 about whether to go ahead with the Summer Fête in May or not. Due to the numbers of cases of COVID-19 at the time, it was decided **not** to go ahead with the Summer Fête and to hold a raffle instead for which



households in both parishes will be sent tickets. We need people to help to co-ordinate the raffle, and we need those people on board asap.

Please contact the Rector if you can help, in any way with the raffle.

## EASTER GENERAL VESTRIES



Our Easter General Vestries will take place on the following dates at 8pm:

**Mount Merrion Easter General Vestry on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in St Thomas' Church**

**Boooterstown and Carysfort Easter General Vestry on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in St Philip and St James' Church**

*Please note that both Easter General Vestries will take place in-person.*

## BANK DETAILS

Both select vestries wish to record their thanks to those who, in difficult times, have been very generous in their giving to the parishes and have adapted their method of giving due to COVID-19—all very much appreciated. A number of people have requested the bank details of the respective parishes in order to set up their parish giving via online banking. The information is below.

### St Philip and St James' Church

Honorary Treasurer: Quentin Tegg (qtegg@gmail.com)

IBAN: IE51 BOFI 9010 2887 8916 34

BIC: BOFIE2D

ACCOUNT NAME: PARISH OF ST PHILIP & ST JAMES

### St Thomas' Church

Honorary Treasurer: Ian Mullen (ianwmullen23@gmail.com)

IBAN: IE22 AIBK 9335 7015 2550 13

BIC: AIBKIE2D

ACCOUNT NAME: ST THOMAS' CHURCH



Hopefully, we will be able to go ahead with the

# Autumn Fair

in St Philip and St James' Parish Centre and in the church grounds on

**Saturday 8 October 2022**

Put the date in your diary!

You will be hearing more about this during the summer.

## RAFFLE PRIZES

But we need prizes for the raffle at this stage, so that we can apply for a permit from the Garda Síochána.

