



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



EASTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Challenges after COVID

COVID was a watershed event in our lives. Whilst, thanks to vaccines, etc., we are now living with COVID, things in our lives have changed and there is a new normal. Some things have been able to go back to the way they were pre-COVID, others will not. One of the things that has changed is attendance at worship. A recent survey, conducted by Amárach Research of 1,500 adults throughout Ireland, found that 41% of Roman Catholics who went to mass regularly before COVID, no longer do so. The reason for approximately 25% of those who no longer attend mass is because they "still have concerns about COVID-19" and that they prefer to watch it online or on TV to keep safe, which means that 75% of those who no longer go to mass do so for other reasons, such as having fallen out of the habit, or they started to do other things during COVID when churches were shut, etc. The figures are comparable to the experience across the Church of Ireland and in our parishes.

During the pandemic, a number of parishioners, who were regular attendees, have moved into residential care or have become no longer able to get out and about, and for them, the live-streaming is their way of attending worship, often with family members joining them on a Sunday morning so that they can 'go to church together'. Since March 2020, we have been trying to meet the particular challenges brought to worship and church services by COVID; in the early part of COVID, we had worship via Facebook lasting about 15 minutes, we then moved on to having the webcam allowing us to live-stream services with no congregation in church. We provided almost 100 Midweek Musical Treats to lift people's spirits. Intermittently for over a year, we were able to have limited services with restricted numbers and social-distancing; we had to have 'booking-in' for Christmas services. Now, we are back in church without social distancing or limitations but there are still challenges... as mentioned above... and we are trying to find ways to facilitate and encourage people to worship. You will see on page 6, the House of Bishops has issued a letter about returning to using the common chalice only. That too presents a challenge as people continue to have concerns about receiving from the common chalice. With the optimum time for a live-streaming start-time of between 10.30 and 11.00 to facilitate those in nursing homes and the return of Sunday Club, and trying to give families an option of an early and a later time for Sunday Club, I have consulted with both select vestries about worship for over a year. Whilst it is not the remit of select vestries to decide on service times—that responsibility falls to the Rector—I felt that it was better to consult. There are no easy answers: we are going to try the following service times on a Sunday to see how they work: 8.30 Holy Communion (alternating month-about), 9.30 service in St Thomas' Church and 11.00 service in St Philip and St James' Church. We will have the Sausage Service at 18.30 once a month in St Philip and St James' Church and the Midweek Holy Communion Service on a Wednesday at 10.30 in St Thomas' Church. United Services will be as announced.

Easter

The pandemic was like a desert experience... lonely, anxious, isolating. For many people, there were Good Friday experiences in the pandemic as loved ones died from COVID and other illnesses. There were times too of an Easter Day experience, of hope and new life. With the ebb and flow of life, sometimes it feels like we are in Holy Saturday... somewhere between the darkness of Good Friday and the hope and possibility of Easter Day. But even if we are 'stuck' in Holy Saturday, we do so with the knowledge and hope of the resurrection, and that makes our experience of Holy Saturday, completely different to what it would have been for Jesus' disciples. Good Friday and Easter Day changed lives and our understanding of the world forever. COVID-19 changed our lives and our understanding of the world forever. We cannot go back, we can only go forward, embracing the future and the hope and promise of the resurrection.

Happy Easter to you all.

Gillian



Rector: The Reverend Canon Gillian Wharton

Tel: 01-2887118 or 087-2300767

Email: booterstown@dublin.anglican.org

www.booterstownchurch.ie

www.mountmerrionchurch.ie

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkwQ9cDGC_RM0QNYtJBOM6A

SERVICES for HOLY WEEK and EASTER and rest of APRIL 2023



Sunday 2nd April 2023 – Palm Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

9.30 NB Time Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

Holy Week

Monday – 20.00 in St Thomas' Church

Tuesday – 20.00 in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday - 10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

20.00 in St Thomas' Church

Maundy Thursday – 20.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

Good Friday – 14.00 Prayer at the Cross in St Thomas' Church

19.30 - Ecumenical Prayer around the Cross in The Church of the Assumption

Sunday 9th April 2023 – Easter Day

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

9.30 NB Time Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church



Wednesday 12th April 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 16th April 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

9.30 NB Time Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

NB Date 18.30 Sausage Service in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 19th April 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 23rd April 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

9.30 NB Time Service of the Word in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Baptism in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 26th April 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

Sunday 30th April 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

9.30 NB Time Service of the Word in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Baptism in St Philip and St James' Church



Ecumenical Sunrise Service—Please note that there is no Ecumenical Sunrise Service on Sandymount Strand this year. This is organised by the churches in the Sandymount area and we have always been delighted to join in, but it is not happening this year.

Easter Egg Hunt—there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children, on Easter Day, at the end of the 9.30 service in St Thomas' Church and at the end of the 11.00 service in St Philip and St James' Church.

REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

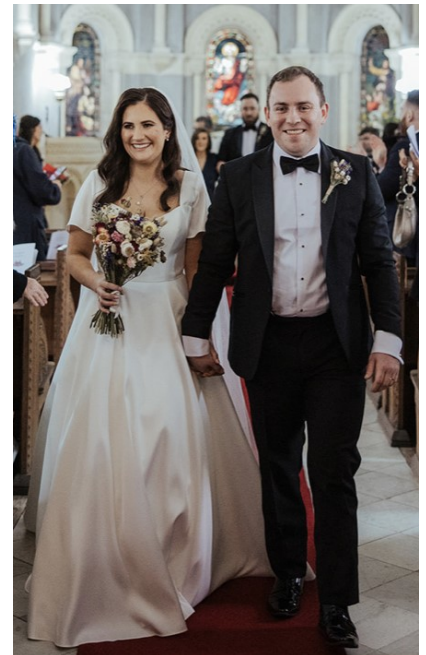
India Gabrielle Mitchell, Theodore William Mitchell and Renée Carol Mitchell, the children of Alexa (née O'Byrne) and Shane Mitchell, were baptised in St Philip and St James' Church on Sunday 22nd January 2023. India and Teddy poured the water into the font while Renée slept! India's godparents are Andrew Taylor and Renée Weldon, Theodore's (Teddy) godparents are Gavin Canning and Sarah Canning and Renée godparents are Clodagh Lauder and Peter Homan. We wish India, Teddy and Renée every blessing on their journey of faith.

Holy Matrimony

Congratulations to St Thomas' parishioner **Nesa Samuel Karunadhas (Sam)** and **Sangeetha Janani** who were married in the Indian Pentecost Assembly, Dharapuram, Tamil Nadu, India on Wednesday 28th December 2022. We wish Sam and Sangeetha every happiness in their married life together.



Congratulations to St Philip and St James' parishioners **Rebecca Case** and **Daniel Ruddock** who were married in Rebecca's home parish church, the Church of the Ascension, Rathdaire, County Laois on Saturday 4th February 2023. We wish Daniel and Rebecca every happiness in their married life together.



In Memoriam

Brian Richard Douglas died on Tuesday 24th January 2023. His funeral took place in St Philip and St James' Church on Saturday 28th January 2023, followed by cremation at Mount Jerome. We extend our sympathy to his twin brother Paul, his sister-in-law Janet, his nephew Clive, his niece Anna, and the extended family, and his friends.

Robert (Bob) Stephen Laycock died on Wednesday 15th February 2023. Bob was a loyal and devoted parishioner of St Philip and St James' Church where he served as churchwarden and, served quietly and without fuss, in a myriad of other ways. Bob loved to sing and was a member of the Dublin Welsh Male Voice Choir and The Celtic Choristers. Both choirs joined forces to sing at his funeral, including a deeply moving rendition of one of Bob's favourite hymns 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross' to the tune *Morte Christ*. Bob's funeral took place in St Philip and St James' Church on Saturday 18th February 2023, followed by burial at Deansgrange Cemetery. We extend our sympathy to his wife Yvonne, to Bob's children Ruth and Robert and their families and to Bob's wider family and friends.

Continued on page 4/...

REGISTERS

.../Continued from page 3

In Memoriam

Thomas Matheson died on Saturday 18th February 2023. Tom, his sisters and parents were parishioners of St Thomas' Church and every time, Tom passed the church, he always spoke of his time in St Thomas' Church as a child. His funeral took place in St Thomas' Church on Wednesday 22nd March 2023, followed by burial in Kilternan Cemetery Park. We extend our sympathy to his wife Ruth, his children Daragh, Louise and Andrew, his sisters Jane and Ada and all the extended family and friends.

Robert (Bob) Norman Baker died on Tuesday 14th March 2023. Bob was a faithful parishioner of St Thomas' Church until ill-health and then a move to St John's House Nursing Home, prevented him from attending church. His funeral is to take place in St Thomas' Church on Monday 20th March 2023, followed by burial on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at St Luke's Churchyard, Douglas, Cork. We extend our sympathy to his children David and Ruth and their families, and to the extended family and friends.

Interment of Ashes

The ashes of **Ronald Brian Swainson** who died on 20th November 2022 were interred in St Thomas' Garden of Remembrance on Wednesday 21st December 2022. We extend our sympathy to his family circle.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to:

Paul Wymes and his family on the death of his father, Michael;
 Viola Brady and her family on the death of her aunt, Maud;
 Kim Featherstone and his family on the death of his step-mother Heather;
 Judith Donlon and her family on the death of her brother-in-law;
 Albert and Rita Clasby and their daughter Sarah on the death of their daughter and sister Aida.

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

Our two parishes have an ongoing working relationship with **The Alice Leahy Trust** the **Capuchin Day Centre**. 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 and 2022, the school and the parishes have given pot meals, etc. and new underwear, socks, scarves, hats and gloves to The Alice Leahy Trust, and lots of non-perishable food items to the Capuchin Day Centre and 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 year-round 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, and will be passed on.

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.

Thank you to Sheila Chamberlain from St Thomas' and Viola Brady and Denise Richards from St Philip and St James' who help with this parish work.

Thank you!

BOOTERTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL



We have had a very busy and exciting term. What a lovely time to be taking part in activities such as choir festivals, Food Dudes, Futsal, school trips and buddy activities with our friends and classmates.

We've been blown away by the generosity of the school community fundraising for Daffodil Day which raised €1,250.

On Thursday 3rd March 2023, 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.

Our School Choir performed at the Interschools music Festival in Wesley College. They sang the song "Breakaway" by Kelly Clarkson beautifully. The performance included solo parts and instrumental accompaniments. Well done boys and girls. A huge thank you to Catherine our choir teacher for all her hard work.

Our Student Council have been very active this term organising a Bake Sale that raised over €600. The Council chose to give €300 to the Irish Cancer Society and are using the remaining money for school projects including creating a Wildflower Garden. The Student Council also created a Student of the Month Award, class Talent Shows and a Fun Pjama Day.

Thank you to our PTA for all their support in funding Futsal and improved cooking facilities. We have been busy making pizzas and brownies.

The PTA is having a School Fair on Sunday 28 May 2023 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.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.

Best wishes,

Emma Uí Shúilleabháin
Principal



GENERAL SYNOD

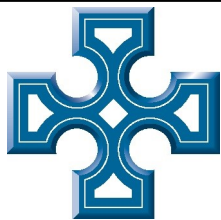
This year, the General Synod will take place in a different format. It will be in-person for two days and what would have been the third day, will be via Zoom on two evenings the following week. There are a number of reasons for this:

1. For attendees at General Synod who are working, they needed to take two days off work when it was a 3-day in-person synod. This is not feasible for many, such as teachers, and even if it is, they are giving up two days' holidays to attend General Synod. For those who are farmers attending General Synod, it can be difficult, if not impossible to leave a farm for three consecutive days.
2. The cost of attending General Synod is borne by the attendees. Accommodation is expensive and by reducing the number of overnights required, it reduces the cost.

Tso, this year, the General Synod will meet on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th May 2023, in-person, in the Clayton White's Hotel in Wexford town, and will meet via Zoom on the evening of Tuesday 16th May 2023, and if necessary, also on the evening of Thursday 18th May 2023 via Zoom.

The opening service for the General Synod will be held in St Iberius' Church, Wexford, at 9.30 on Friday 12th May 2023 and the 'business' of General Synod will begin at 11.00 in the Clayton White's Hotel.

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 2020-2023. Elections for the next triennium (General Synod 2024-2026 inclusive) will take place at the time of the Diocesan Synod in 2023, which this year, will be Tuesday 3rd October 2023.



House of Bishops

The Administration of the Holy Communion

From time to time, during and since the Covid 19 pandemic, the bishops have sought to offer counsel to the wider church particularly concerning the manner of the administration of the Holy Communion. In all our statements, we have sought to combine seemliness and safety and to take the best professional advice available to us.

It is approximately a year now since we encouraged the restored use of the common cup at Holy Communion. This is the traditional Anglican practice in relation to the administration of the sacrament, and is enshrined in the formularies of the Book of Common Prayer. The sharing of the Cup of the Lord is rich in meaning and value for the communicant, and only in the most extraordinary medical emergency could we take it upon ourselves to advise that the cup should be withdrawn, or that the consecrated wine of the Eucharist should be administered by other temporary means such as individual vessels.

We recognised a year ago that it would take some time for the cup to be restored across the whole church, that there would for a while need to be a degree of variety of practice, and that the position of those who remained nervous about receiving from it should be respected. Nevertheless, cognisant of the present situation in terms of public health, and mindful of professional wisdom which indicates the extremely low risk associated with the transmission of infection via a shared silver vessel containing the fermented fruit of the vine and used in an ordered liturgical context, we have all agreed to provide the following directions to the church. We believe we are doing this in a situation where in fact the common cup has already been largely restored around the parishes of the Church of Ireland.

- specific permissions given by individual bishops for the use of individual vessels at Holy Communion will lapse after Pentecost Sunday 2023
- Thereafter the administration of the consecrated wine at Holy Communion in our churches should involve the common cup only
- Those who remain for their own reasons nervous about receiving from the common cup should be respected, and they should receive in one kind only, with an assurance that the Church teaches that the sacrament can be fully received in one kind
- People who are obviously the victims of infections that involve coughing and sneezing should probably think twice before coming to church, and certainly out of courtesy to others should show temporary gracious restraint in not seeking to receive from the common cup
- We ask that communicants do not themselves intinct (dip) the consecrated bread they have received in the wine. This is based on clear medical advice - intinction can spread infection from fingers to the wine, and crumbs of bread left in the wine can be problematical for other people who wish to receive it, eg coeliacs
- Chalices should be kept scrupulously clean, and washed with very hot soapy water after services before being put away. Defects on chalices eg torn lips should be professionally repaired
- It is generally held that noble metal rather than pottery vessels can be used more hygienically
- It is really important that chalices be wiped fully using clean cloth (preferably linen) purificators. The use of tissues can spread infection; the use of proper cloth purificators significantly diminishes it.

In issuing this guidance we are concerned that communicants feel safe, that they conduct themselves with mutual courtesy, and that above all the supper of the Lord is administered with reverence and with joy. The long period during which the common cup had to be withdrawn only served to remind us of how precious a thing it is, how full of Scriptural resonances, how it speaks to us of our utter equality before God as we gather in sacramental unity, how the beauty of its meaning must never be taken for granted. In that spirit we pray that the full restoration of the common cup, surrounded of course by care and courtesy, can be for the whole Church of Ireland a matter of the greatest joy.

Summer Fête



Mount Merrion Select Vestry has decided not to hold a Summer Fête at St Thomas' Church in May 2023, due to a lack of people available to run the fête. A generous bequest from the late Venerable Bill Heney has taken some of the financial pressure off to have a fête this year. However, the fête is about more than just money, it is also a community event for the parish and for the wider neighbourhood and community. It is very much hoped that we will have a fête in May 2024, but we will need people to put their hands up and volunteer to run stalls, erect tents and help to make the fête in our sesquicentennial (150th) year.

EASTER GENERAL VESTRIES



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

Mount Merrion Easter General Vestry on Monday 17 April 2023 in St Thomas' Church

Boooterstown and Carysfort Easter General Vestry on Thursday 20 April 2023 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 Teggin (qteggin@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



Autumn Fair

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

Saturday 14 October 2023

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.



EVENING BADMINTON IN ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES' HALL... from 8pm

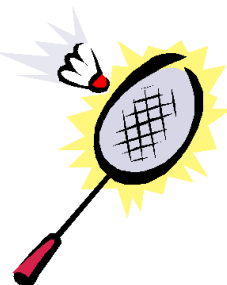
Spring evenings, better light and wanting to get fit for the summer... we have the answer...

BADMINTON!!!

We have had a great season so far, and new members are always welcome!

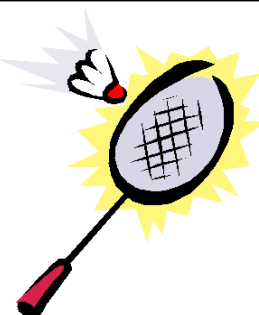
You don't have to be a pro. Just a racquet and runners and off you go to St Philip and St James' Badminton Club, Cross Avenue, on Thursday evenings. Make new friends and have fun along with a good workout, what could be easier.

For further information, please contact
Maureen at 01-2809826 or 086-3203849



MORNING BADMINTON IN ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES' HALL

Do you like to get your exercise done early in the day?



Then Thursday morning badminton might be just the thing for you!

With nice bright mornings, there is no excuse not to have a bright and early start on Thursday!!

Thursday Morning Badminton is on from 9.30am

For further information, please contact:

Gill Davis at 087-7847711



St Philip and St James' Whist

Monday evenings at 7.30pm in the Canon Osborne Barr Room—All very welcome!

Contact Deirdre Kennedy 087-6283534

Parish 5-a-side Indoor Soccer

Monday and Wednesday nights in St Philip and St James' Parish Hall — it's great fun and a great way to keep fit!



8.30-9.30pm All welcome

**Contact Dylan Rynhart at
dylanrynhart@gmail.com or join the
WhatsApp Group at**



EMAIL! ... EMAIL! ... EMAIL!



Email is an efficient, economical and environmentally friendly way in which to communicate and get information out from the parishes to the parishioners. But, inevitably people tend to change their email addresses from time to time, and we also do not have email addresses for some parishioners who are on email. It would help us ENORMOUSLY if we were able to email you. If you do use email, please, email the Rector so that we can have our email address on our records and use it to communicate with you.

The Rector's email address: booterstown@dublin.anglican.org

St Thomas' Sunday Club



St Thomas' Sunday Club started back up in February and we have been really enjoying getting to know the young people in our church. In only a short space of time, the children have produced some wonderful work.

During our first Sunday Club, with it being so close to St Valentine's Day, we discussed the quote from 1 Corinthians, "Love is kind". We thought about all the various ways in which we can show love and kindness to people. The children then made some beautiful St Valentine's Day cards, which had this quote written on them. When we came back into the church, Lydia told the congregation what we had done during Sunday Club and the children then handed out the cards and some chocolate to everyone.

During our March Sunday club we focused on St Patrick. We started the Sunday club with a fun treasure hunt to get the children energised and then we learnt about St Patrick and decorated some shamrocks to give to the congregation when we came back into church.

This Sunday, 2 April 2023, at 9.30—NB the earlier time, we will meet again and this time the focus will be on Palm Sunday. It will involve more thoughtful discussions, lovely artwork and fun! We look forward to seeing you there! We will meet too, on Sunday 7 May 2023 at 9.30, in the Monk Gibbon Hall.

Katy Ryan, Claire Metcalfe, Catherine Thanaseelan and Adam McMurray

St Philip and St James' Sunday Club

Sunday Club re-opened again in February of this year, following a Covid related pause.

The group meets once a month, echoing the Church calendar as a guide for its activities. So far, those activities are arts and crafts based with a musical backdrop.



In February, the group met just before St Valentine's Day and made heart shapes which focused on God's love. The children practised a hymn about creation which was sung at the end of the service when the children re-joined the congregation.

March followed with a nod to St Patrick's Day and the shamrock. The children cut, glued and coloured what is important to each of them on coins to place on of a crock of gold.

On Palm Sunday, 2 April 2023, we will be making palm trees cut from green card. We will be singing a song and reading the story of Jesus coming into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

In May, we will meet on Sunday 7 May 2023 for Sunday Club and then we will have our prize-giving at the United Service for the Blessing of the Animals, at 10.30 in St Philip and St James' Church on Sunday 28 May 2023.



Gillian Morrow, Stefanie O'Brien-Feeney and Joanne Sherry

Lenten Challenge

Gillian is off again!

She is walking at least 6km every day of Lent 2023.

Wednesday 22nd February – Saturday 8th April 2023

in aid of:

**The victims of the earthquake in
Turkey and Syria (*channelled
through the Bishops' Appeal to
Christian Aid who are working on
the ground with local agencies*), and
parish funds**



Again, this Lent, I am encouraging people to take up something that gives you a focus each day and that benefits you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

You can make a donation by online banking to

Boooterstown and Mount Merrion Account

IBAN: IE30IPBS99062932796541 BIC: IPBSIE2D

Join Gillian for a 6km walk (or part of) on all or any of the following Saturdays at 2pm:

***1st April 2023 – meet at St Thomas' Church
8th April 2023 – Starting point to be confirmed!***

On Saturday 25th March 2023, parishioners Patricia Bedlow, Sheila Chamberlain, June Burgess and Ros Phillips, joined Gillian on a 6km walk which included Carysfort Park, Rockfield Park and Blackrock Park



where the necessary
pit-stop was had at *The
Bumble Bean Barista
Coffee Van!!*

There will be coffee stops
on the remaining two
walks on 1st April and 8th
April 2023!!!



25th DUBLIN (MOUNT MERRION) SCOUT GROUP



This year promises to be an exciting one for the Scouts and newly formed Rover unit as they prepare to spend the first week of July camping in Iceland. This trip was originally due to take place three years ago, but COVID restrictions intervened. Those who were in Scouts then have since turned 18 years of age, and must therefore be Garda vetted and undergo safeguarding training. Leaders have had to gain new qualifications to lead a camp abroad and great credit is due to Cedric Heather and his team who have put a huge amount of time into organising the trip and seeing that all is in order. The Scouts are planning an Easter camp to prepare for the expedition and the troop members are also undertaking a first aid course, as well as honing their pioneering and backwoods skills.



The Cub Scouts have shown a particular interest in pioneering projects this term and have been building ladders with clove hitches, lashing and frapping. They have also been out in the community, completing a very productive clean-up of the nature reserve in Sandymount, and walking with the Rector on one of her daily 6 kms in aid of the Turkey and Syria earthquake victims. We are now planning our summer camp-not quite as exotic as Iceland but just as challenging and exciting. In preparation for camp, the Cubs have learnt how to prepare food for cooking safely and hygienically.

The Beaver Colony has grown in numbers recently with a few new girls coming on board. They have been baking, hiking and learning about maps. The Rector visited the Colony for the Investiture of new Beavers in February and talked to them about the family of Scouting worldwide. We have 6 new male volunteers whose applications are being processed at the moment. Four of them are dads of Beavers/Cubs. We are now looking for some females, aged 18 or over, for both the Cubs and Beavers. Perhaps the Iceland experience will entice some of our former youth members to come back and share their skills with the next generation of enthusiastic young members of 25th Dublin!



The Cubs and their leaders walking 6km with the Rector in UCD in aid of the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

Happy Easter to you all!

Lesley Rankin

(Group Leader)

Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy in aid of Earthquake Victims in Turkey and Syria

In addition to the Lenten, Challenge, we also had a Coffee Morning in aid of the victims of the earthquake. Thank you to everyone who supported and helped at the coffee Morning in St Philip and St James' Church on Saturday 25th February 2023. It was lovely to see people getting together and chatting, and to be able to raise funds to help the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Just over €2,600 was sent to the Bishops' Appeal to be channelled through to Christian Aid.



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 26 March 2023 and the Daffodil Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy afterwards in the Parish Centre. It was great to be able to gather and pray for all who are and have been affected in any way by cancer. Over €1,800 was raised for the Irish Cancer Society and the School also raised €1,250 on Friday.

Well done to everyone who helped and supported.

Sponsor a Chair

for

St Philip and St James' Church

In removing the pews from the east end of the nave and from some of both transepts, our desire was not to remove seating but to have seating that was more flexible, which could be arranged in a variety of ways and which would also facilitate those who are wheelchair users to be able to sit with the family and friends in the midst of the congregation rather than sitting in the aisle. The Select Vestry has been in discussions with Irish Contract Seating who are based in Dromod in County Leitrim—they are the same company that made the new Communion Table or Altar and the 'wedding chairs' in St Thomas' Church. Out of three samples, the Select Vestry has chosen the one called the Christ Church Chair and it is photographed here. The plan (and indeed, the advice from Irish Contract Seating) is to have the wood of the chair the same colour as the pews and the upholstery the same colour as the pew runners. The logo that will be carved on the back-rest is our parish logo without the lettering. There will be a provision for a small brass plaque on the top of the back-rest, to facilitate an engraving if someone would like to donate a chair in memory of someone or as a gift to the church. The cost of a chair is €275 (including the brass plaque and engraving). If you would like more information about donating or sponsoring a chair, please contact the Honorary Treasurer, Quentin Tegg at qtegg@btinternet.com or the Rector. Irish Contract Seating are lending us forty chairs until we take delivery of the bespoke chairs in the middle of 2023.

