

The CMC Times



Parishes of Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla
June 2023

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If any parishioners are unwell or due to go into hospital, please let us know so we can visit. Contact details to the left.

Print Deadline

The next edition of The CMC Times will be the **July / August 2023** issue. The deadline for articles / photos will be **Thursday 15th June 2023**.

CHURCH FLOWERS

Would you like to have flowers in Church in memory of a loved one or to remember an anniversary, a wedding, a baptism, to celebrate a special event or for no particular reason.

The flowers can be an arrangement, fresh flowers in a vase or a pot plant.

It does not have to be expensive

For more information please contact

Meryl Foster (Castleknock) or

Margaret Tutty (Clonsilla)



Dear Friends,

There is something rather consistent about arriving in a new place, no matter where you arrive in the world you are likely to find a sign that welcomes you. In driving into Clonsilla Village you will be met with a large stone bearing the words “fáilte go sráidbhaile Chluain Saileach” – welcome to Clonsilla Village. Often when we arrive at an airport we will see a sign like the one below welcoming visitors in their own language.



There is no doubt, from a tourism or commercial point of view, making a place appear to be welcoming is high on the agenda. So what does it mean to be welcoming? The dictionary definition of welcoming is “behaving in a polite or friendly way to a guest or new arrival”. For the tourism and hospitality industry the goal of welcoming a guest (or customer) is rather obvious, make them feel welcome and they will be better consumers and they will recommend the place to others.

For a community surely being welcoming must go beyond seeking to gain a commercial advantage? I’m sure many of you are familiar with the phrase ‘céad míle fáilte’, and if you don’t know what it means you will have seen it in tourist shops and on signs across the country. The phrase literally means the land of a thousand welcomes and it is a phrase that has become a badge that we in Ireland wear with pride. In our communities here in Dublin 15 we

literally see the evidence of the thousand welcomes every time we walk down the street as we encounter people who have made this area their home arriving from all parts of the world. At the recent Castleknock Community College 6th year Graduation, the principal, Mr Cronin, told us that when the school opened in 1995 there were 5 students whose family history was not rooted in Ireland, this year there are pupils from 40 different countries around the world who have made D15 their home. We are so blessed to experience daily such a wide variety of cultures. We witness every Sunday in our churches, a diversity of colour, accents and costume making up our Christian family.

It has been with great sadness though that over the past months we have heard a different narrative rising from the land of a thousand welcomes. This narrative is far from welcoming and is sinister in tone. A narrative that Ireland is not a place of welcome, rather a place that wants to close our borders and keep newcomers out. The narrative may not be a majority voice but it is a loud voice and it is a dangerous voice. This narrative claims to be our narrative, the voice of the Irish people, but the language of hate, of fear, of division is so far from “céad míle fáilte” that we cannot allow it to grow and we certainly cannot allow it to be our voice. We remember that Patrick who we recognise as bringing the Christian faith to our land was a migrant and is known as the Patron Saint of migrants. It is in the faith we share with Patrick and the faith that we share with so many of our brothers and sisters who have come to live among us that we are called to be welcoming. Hebrews 12 verse 2 tells us “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.”

So how do we as a church live out that call to welcome? Have you ever stopped to read the signs in the entrance porches of our churches?

**“A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another:
just as I have loved you, you also are to love one
another”**

John 13: 34



IN OUR CHURCH WE STRIVE TO BE A WELCOMING
COMMUNITY WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME AND ALL ARE
LOVED.

WHEN WE SAY ALL, WE TRULY MEAN **ALL**

Our vision, as a church family, is to create “A CHURCH OF
GOD, A CHURCH FOR ALL”.

“Growing together as a Christ-centred community where
all are welcome, all are loved.”

There can be no exceptions to who we welcome or who
we love. We must continuously strive to ensure that all
who enter our churches, our parish centres, our school or
our communities feel the warmth of Christ’s hospitality
through our actions.

I am so thankful for the welcome I received from you all
when I arrived last May. Janice and I quickly felt at home
in our churches and the community. Our wonderful staff
and pupils in Castleknock National School made me feel a
part of our school community from the moment I walked
through the doors. I feel so blessed to serve in a church
community where people from all around the world have

found a home and whose gifts enhance our churches.

This month we have the opportunity to create another
welcome as Rev Natasha joins our church family as Curate
Assistant. I’ve no doubt there will be a warm and friendly
“croeso i Castleknock” (welcome to Castleknock in
Natasha’s native Welsh). I encourage as many of you as
possible to join with Rev Natasha on Wednesday 21st
June in St Brigid’s as Archbishop Michael presides in a
special Service of Introduction, your presence will mean a
lot to Natasha.

I end with words from the priest and poet John
O’Donohue, words for Rev Natasha as she prepares to
travel to Ireland to join us and equally words for all who
come here to start a new beginning:

*“May you know in your soul that there is no need to be
afraid... You are not going somewhere strange. You are
going back to the home you never left. May you have a
wonderful urgency to live your life to the full... May your
going be sheltered and your welcome assured.”*

Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla – a place
where all find a welcome.

God bless,

Rev Colin



Services for June 2023

Sunday 4	Trinity Sunday	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 7	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 11	The First Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer & Sunday Club Gift Day	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Service of the Word & Sunday Club Gift Day	St Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	Compline	St Thomas'
Wednesday 14	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 18	The Second Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	United Service of Holy Communion	St Mary's
Wednesday 21	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 25	The Third Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Cornerstone	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Cornerstone	St Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 28	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre

The Wednesday service of Holy Communion continues in Castleknock Parish Centre at 10.30 a.m.

Live streaming will continue from St. Brigid's Church on Sundays at 11.30 a.m.

Service of Introduction for Rev Natasha Quinn Thomas

We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new Curate Assistant, Rev. Natasha Quinn-Thomas, who will arrive from Wales later this month. There will be the opportunity to welcome Rev. Natasha at a special Service of Introduction on Wednesday 21st June in St Brigid's. The preacher and celebrant for the service will be Archbishop Michael who was a wonderful help in enabling us to appoint Rev. Natasha.

Following the service there will be a reception in the Parish Centre where you will have the opportunity to introduce yourself to Rev Natasha. As it is close to Mid Summers Day, a strawberry and cream reception seems appropriate along with a glass of prosecco to celebrate this wonderful occasion for our churches and to warmly welcome Rev. Natasha.



Please pray for Rev. Natasha as she prepares to travel to Ireland and that she will quickly settle and feel at home in our church and wider community.

We really need volunteers help out on the evening by setting up the hall and helping with preparing and serving refreshments. We also need people to supply strawberries and cream for the event, there will be lists in church to volunteer.

Clean Up Help Needed

We will be calling on volunteers to help with a clean-up of Kilbride, inside and out, ahead of the arrival of Rev Natasha. Currently work is being carried out by our Glebe wardens and other volunteers to have the house ready. There will be work to be done in cleaning up after the work is finished and in the gardens around Kilbride and also the exterior of the Parish Centre.

Please look out for details in church or via our parish emails and get involved if you can as we try to have the place ready for Rev. Natasha and the grounds looking good for the summer.

Sunday Club Gift Day

Sunday 11th June will be a celebration of our Sunday Club children and their leaders. In Clonsilla there will be Morning Prayer with a presentation of a gift to the children who have attended Sunday Club. In Castleknock the Sunday Club will take part in a special Service of the Word and maybe teach us a new song or two!

There will be refreshments following the services with maybe a treat for the young and young at heart.

We would like to thank our Sunday Club leaders for giving of their time and their many talents to help make Sunday Club such a fun environment for our boys and girls to learn more about God. It has been wonderful to see Sunday Club grow since starting back in September and a number of new leaders getting involved.

While there is no Sunday Club over the summer please look out for the worksheets at the back of church and remember we never mind hearing children in church on a Sunday, we are just delighted to have them with us.





Great chat, good food, super venue and a brilliant night out for all – on 8th May in Springfield Hotel. Thank you to Valerie for her extensive research and organising a lovely evening when we warmly invited all to our Ladies Night. We were



delighted to welcome those who came along and enjoyed the friendship and fun as well as the food.



We continue to pray for members who are undergoing treatment and send good wishes for their recovery. We also think of those who have been

bereaved in recent weeks. The sunshine is pouring in through the window and I hope you will all have a healthy, happy and peaceful summer. We

look forward to welcoming Rev Natasha Quinn-Thomas to Castleknock.



Anne

An invitation for all

**International Widows' Day Service
Friday 23rd June 2023
St Patrick's Church, Greystones,
at 11.00 a.m.**

**Speaker: June Butler,
All Ireland President of MU**

**June is a widow herself and speaks
with empathy.**

Knit & Natter

Hopefully in September we will get back to meeting up together for our Knit and Natter evenings ... always plenty of needles clicking but plenty of natter too.

THE BIG KNIT for INNOCENT

DRINKS is still being done and we very recently delivered 236 little hats for their bottles to their office in Ballsbridge Baby hats, matinee jackets and blankets were also done by our knitters and were given to our maternity hospitals. Well done to all.



Condolences

It was with great shock and sadness that we learnt of the sudden death of Sally Ann Gleeson, a young mother from our church and school community. Our deepest sympathies, prayers and support are with her husband Shane, children Jamie, Max and Milly, her parents, David and Meta, brother Harvey and all the wider family circle and her many friends.

Sally Ann's funeral took place in St Brigid's, Castleknock on Friday 2nd June.



Stella on Tour!

Our much loved Diocesan Reader Stella Obe is heading to the Holy Lands at the start of June as part of a readers exchange program with our link Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Stella will be flying into Israel and will take part in a retreat study as well as getting the opportunity to visit some of the holy sites. This is part of the same partnership that Rev. Colin visited Jordan earlier in the year.

Please keep Stella in your prayers as she travels and spends time in the Middle East. We look forward to her sharing about her trip when she gets back home.

Youth Group BBQ



Our new Youth Group for post confirmation young people (which from September will be for Secondary School age up to under 18) was launched in May as 16 young people joined in some fun games before a short Bible talk on choices.

We meet again on Sunday 11th June for a BBQ at Castleknock Parish Centre from 5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. This will be a fun evening to end the year before we start back in September.

From September we will look at having two groups based on ages attending if we have sufficient numbers.

Anyone interested in helping with this group should speak to Rev Colin. We will need the help of a few parents for the BBQ in June and then will seek to build a team of leaders before September.



Tiny Tots



The final Tiny-Tots drop-in session before the summer break will be on Thursday 15th June from 10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. in Castleknock Parish Centre. Tiny Tots is for all pre-school aged children and their parents / carers. We held one session a month until June with the plan of starting weekly in September. This is a wonderful opportunity for new parents or those caring for young children to meet others and grow friendships as well as seeing their little ones interacting and enjoying the activities. There is a €2 charge to cover the cost of refreshments. For further details or if you would be interested in helping, please contact Louise McDonagh. Please spread the word to anyone with pre-school children.

Castleknock National School 300 Year Celebration Events



In May our Parents Association organised an evening in the Twin Oaks Restaurant to mark 300 years of Castleknock National School and to raise some funds for the school.

Thank you to all who came along and made it such an enjoyable evening and generously donated money for the school, the children certainly came up with quite a wish list!

Thank you to Tawnie and Therese and the team who organised a great event.

On the last day of term, 28th June, the school will host a special morning for the children to mark the occasion as well as officially opening the new Hub Room. Plans are under way to have a few very special guests at the event as we celebrate our wonderful parish school.

Wednesday Club Trip to the Dáil

Our Wednesday Club enjoyed an outing to the Dáil on Wednesday 31st May by a vote to eat in Buswells with a few well known politicians for company!

Thank you to the committee for organising such an enjoyable day and it was lovely to bump into Alex our church warden from Clonsilla too.



The next Wednesday Club outing will be on Thursday 22nd June to Newgrange Monument and Visitor's Centre.

Those travelling to this event are **not** to go directly to the monument but to go to the Visitor's Centre so that we can book in at 11.45 a.m. The group will be transported to the monument by shuttle bus.

Please note that the walk to bus is 600 metres. Anyone with limited mobility may come to the Visitor's Center. Following the tour it is planned that lunch will be at the Brambles in the Visitor's Centre.

The cost for the tour is 10 euro.

If you are interested in going, please let Valerie F. know by Tuesday 6th June as numbers need to be confirmed.

Valerie

Date	Outing Details
Wednesday 26th July	Tour of Botanic Gardens. More details to follow. Cost: €5 per head.
Wednesday 30th August	Newbridge House, Donabate. More details to follow.

News



Bowls Club

Since last writing, we have played the final in the Rohu Cup but were defeated by the favourites, Whitechurch. Congratulations to them on their win and also to our team members on giving such a good account of themselves this season.

Club play has continued on Wednesday evenings since and we have recently held two Top Score / Target Bowls fun evenings which were most enjoyable.

On a sad note, our esteemed former member and friend Terry Brown died on 6th May last. Sincere sympathy to his wife Eileen and family on their loss.

As our main season is now drawing to a close, we are holding an end of season club dinner on 1st June in the Thai Garden Restaurant, which is eagerly anticipated by the nineteen people expected to attend.

Play for the new season is likely to commence in early September, when new potential members are welcome to give bowling a try, but we do intend having some play occasionally over the summer.

Clonsilla Cleanup



Mind Matters Walk



Holy Baptism

We were delighted to welcome two children into God's family through Holy Baptism on Sunday 28th May in St Brigid's, Castleknock.

Zoe, joined by her parents Katherine and Jonathan and Godparents, Elizabeth and Michael, and Finlay with his parents Alexandra and Lancelot and Godparent Carmen (and best wishes to Godparents Emma and Marcus who were unable to be with us) along with friends and family truly added a sense of joy and celebration on Pentecost Sunday.



JOINT SERVICE WITH BRING AND SHARE INTERNATIONAL LUNCH

It was lovely to gather in the Parish Centre following our Pentecost Service for our Bring and Share International Lunch. There was a wonderful variety of delicious foods from around the world which we enjoyed and shared together.

Thank you to all who brought food along and all who helped to set up and clear up afterwards. It is always lovely to meet, eat and share together as a church family.



'Language of Unity and Hope Can Counter Hate' – Motion Calls for Synod Solidarity



Dr Lucy Michael, Stella Obe, Flower Paddy and Dr Pat Barker – all from Dublin and Glendalough – speaking at General Synod in Wexford.

Article published on the Dublin and Glendalough Diocesan website at <https://dublin.anglican.org/news/2023/05/15/language-of-unity-and-hope>

A powerful message opposing racism and anti-migrant sentiment and actions has been sent out by General Synod.

Members of Synod unanimously passed a Private Members Motion calling on Synod to acknowledge the impact of anti-refugee and migrant hatred in our communities. The motion also requested the Honorary Secretaries to write to Diocesan Councils seeking suggestions on ways in which the Church can counter the language of anti-refugee and migrant hatred at the local level and communicate a strong message of Christian welcome to all.

Proposing the motion on behalf of the Primate's Ethnic Diversity, Inclusion and Racial Justice Reference Group, Dr Lucy Michael said it was a small strike against an emerging thread of hate in our society but that it spoke to the third and fourth marks of mission: to tend and to transform unjust structures.

She said it was important to acknowledge the emergence of hate in our society against refugees and migrants. She said that attacks on refugees and reception centres now occurred regularly across Europe and in Ireland there had been high profile protests at refugee accommodation centres and an increase in

attacks on refugee and migrant homes in our parishes on this island north and south.

Dr Michael said that this morning she learnt of an attack on asylum seekers on Mount Street who she had sat with last week. She said that the leader of the attack posted on social media that God blessed those who carried out the attack on migrants in Dublin.

She said that extreme hate did not start with violence but started much smaller and that the Church could do something about it.

"The main driver of anti-immigrant attitudes is the perception of threat, fears that refugees and migrants will have a negative impact on our lives and societies, fears that hate groups are all too happy to create and leverage. The cost of living crisis, the housing crisis, and constant media coverage framing migrants and refugees as illegal or suspicious are creating the perfect storm in our communities, in your parishes," she stated.

She continued: "In some places this is highly visible, in others, it's the quietly growing chatter questioning the humanity and the rights of refugees and migrants to exist and participate in our society. It's in the online media we read every day and which influences us much more deeply than we care to admit. The emergence of hate like this should be of concern to Christians everywhere, not only because of the extreme harm to individuals and families who, like us, are made in the likeness of God, but because of the millions of insidious ways that hate works to divide communities through prejudice, mistrust and segregation."

She said the challenge now was how to respond to the increase in anti-refugee and migrant sentiment. She said that there was pushback against the anti-migrant sentiment and there were community groups working to address the politics of hate and counter the impact of extreme hate groups.

"Solidarity work is most effective when it is at the local level, acknowledging the insecurities which drive hate and working to bind rather than divide communities in our social justice work. Language of unity and hope is proven to help counter hate, but it must come from trusted people within a community, it cannot be endowed to it from outside. Therein lies the opportunity for our churches to listen, to respond with love, and to build new and local responses to hate," Dr

'Language of Unity and Hope Can Counter Hate' – Motion Calls for Synod Solidarity

Michael stated, "Let us not be blind to what is now around us. Let us not later say, we should have done something. Let solidarity and love be our watch words, and tend and transform be our actions."

Seconding the motion, Stella Obe (Dublin) asked "Who is my neighbour?" She wondered if it was the person that looks, walks, talks, dresses like me. The person who asked the question of Jesus was asking what was the minimum he could do to enter the Kingdom of God.

"I have been here 40 years and I can tell you how the language of hatred cuts to the bone," she said. She spoke of experiences in work where people asked to speak to an Irish person and didn't accept her response that she was an Irish citizen. "I would have thought that after all of these years being a productive member of society that I would be given recognition," she said. She said people picked up the rhetoric that migrants were coming to Ireland to take our jobs but she said there were so many jobs available in Ireland that no one was taking.

Ms Obe said that the diversity working group was looking at the deeper systemic racism. Looking at the rise of far right across Europe, she said she was surprised that it was being tolerated on this island considering the history of emigration from this country.

She commended the work of the Methodist Church in Ireland and their statement about the attempts to stoke racial tension. "They have stood up and been counted. They were at the rally in Dublin in February. Where was my church? It was nowhere to be found. We are still in the season of Easter. Jesus died for everyone – he was a friend of the poor the downtrodden those who have no voice. He was a champion of all human beings. We are his hands and feet and mouth and ears on earth. We need to be heard. I urge this house to stand up and be counted. He said love one another as even I have loved you," she concluded.

Flower Paddy (Dublin) and chairperson of Uganda Association of Ireland said she believed the motion represented a very important moment. "Racism is not something that can be tolerated," she stated.

Dr Pat Barker (Dublin) supported the motion. She told Synod of her involvement in a recently established group in Dublin. Grandmothers Against Racism stand in the city centre for one hour each Thursday. They say

nothing but stand behind their banner.

"At first we were nervous about doing it. We were afraid we might be abused, attacked, laughed at or ignored. But as we have stood there in the wind and the rain and the cold and sometimes the sunshine, we have found that we have had an enormous response. People asked didn't we realise that these people are taking our jobs, our houses, our girls. We have listened to an amount of vitriol and hatred. But more importantly we have listened to a lot of young men from various parts of the world who have come up to us and thanked us. They have told us about the abuse, discrimination and violence they have experienced. They have told us there are people in Ireland that are bad people. It is not really so much what a few bad people say and do. The problem is more when good people do and say nothing," Dr Barker said.

Nigel Quinn (Down and Dromore) urged synod to support the motion. He told Synod of a trip to Lebanon with Tearfund where they met a Baptist pastor who spoke of the reinvigoration of his church as a result of their outreach to Syrian refugees. He said 17% of the population of the Republic of Ireland is not from Ireland and the north is catching up. He spoke of his parish in Lisburn that reached out to the migrant community and invited them to Christmas carol service. They had a packed church over 200 people, 147 of whom were from the migrant community. "They came and listened to our carols the words were on the screens in Arabic and English. And afterwards we sat down and ate with them. The answer for our empty churches is to ask people to come along and to reach out to the migrant community and we can share the Gospel with them," he stated.

Bishop Michael Burrows (Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe) said the debate on the motion had been the "glory of this Synod". He encouraged members of Synod to face the truth and realise that the reference to 'our communities' was not just 'the people around us', it was 'us'. "The paucity of people of colour in the house, the lack of young people, the difficulty of integrating people into the culture of governance in this church. That is us. That is the truth and that is that decent people do nothing," he stated.

The motion was passed unanimously by Synod.