

The CMC Times



**Parishes of Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla
July / August 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
September 2023 issue. The deadline for articles /
photos will be **Tuesday 15th August 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)



Rector Writes

Dear Friends,

“It’s not meant to rain in the summer”

It isn’t too often we get spells of long warm weather here in Ireland so I’m sure many of us have enjoyed a June that definitely felt like summer. We have had almost a month of no rain up until the thunderstorms that have cleared the air over the past few days. BBQ’s have been on the go and we have been able to enjoy long evenings in the garden. In our school the children have been able to enjoy school trips, sports day and other activities in the good weather. It wasn’t until the morning of the Food Fair when a few drops of rain began (little did we know at the same time there was a downpour just a couple of kms away on the Navan Road causing flooding). It was when those drops of rain began in the school yard that one of the younger boys came over to me and Mrs Moloney and said, “it’s not meant to rain in the summer”.

Words that reflected the innocence of childhood, and little understanding of an Irish summer, but also words that have stuck with me and left me pondering. In the summertime with the sun shining, life always seems to look a little bit easier and the world always seems to be a brighter and happier place. However, we all know that the sunshine will break sometimes just with dullness and cloud, sometimes with rain and on occasion with the darkness and rage of a thunder and lightning storm.

Back studying A Level English Literacy, I recall learning the phrase ‘pathetic fallacy’. This is a literary device in which human emotions are attributed to aspects of nature, such as the weather. For instance, the weather can be used to reflect a person’s mood, with dark clouds or rain present in a scene involving sorrow or sunshine in a scene involving joy or happiness.

Through social media and advertising, we are often bombarded with perfect images that give the illusion that life is full of sunshine and happiness. However, we are all too aware of the cloudy days, the rainy days and even the storms. When those days come, we can often face them in two different ways, they can bring us closer to God or they can make us angry with God.

Throughout the scriptures we see that both those

responses are both part of human nature and part of our faith journey. In the Psalms we see both words of praise and words of lament and even anger as the writer’s struggle with what life throws at them. In the Gospels we read of Jesus and his Disciples on a Boat on Lake Galilee. All is fine as they set off in calm weather with the sun shining, so much so that Jesus takes the opportunity to have a sleep down the back. When the weather changes and a storm rages, the Disciples are terrified to the point of fearing for their lives. They frantically waken Jesus from his sleep, Jesus miraculously quells the storms and asks them “you of little faith, why are you so afraid?”

Like the Disciples it is natural for us to panic when the storms hit but remember even in panic, they looked to the one who stands with us even with the darkest clouds descend around us. Life is never all summer and sunshine but there is one who somehow helps us through the storm even when the worst of life happens. Often it is only that peace that the world cannot give that can help us through and give us the hope to carry on.

The storms of life also make us appreciate the days of sunshine even more. We have all been reminded these past few weeks that we do not know what tomorrow will bring. This past month has been a mixture of celebration and sadness, of sunshine and rain. So perhaps we are reminded to be thankful for everyday and all the many blessings we have.

I hope your summer is literally full of sunshine. For those who are able to get time off and enjoy a holiday, I hope it is filled with fun and laughter with memories being made. For those who are around we would love you to join us on Sundays as church continues throughout the summer and we continue to welcome and get to know Rev Natasha who I have no doubt will bring many rays of sunshine into our church family.

God bless,

Rev Colin



Service of Introduction for Rev. Natasha Quinn-Thomas

We had a wonderful evening of celebration on Wednesday 21st June as we welcomed Rev Natasha with a special Service of Introduction. It was great to see so many in church as we gathered on a beautiful summers evening to be led in worship by Archbishop Michael Jackson.

During the service Rev Natasha was presented with a number of items symbolising the role she will play in our parishes. There were brought forward by a number of parishioners representing the full scope of our parishes.

During his sermon Archbishop Michael said: "Our prayer for Natasha is for her flourishing and for her fruitfulness as God responds to her faithfulness. Natasha will find that things she has done before will transplant – she will rejoice in this continuity; she will find that new shoots will spring up – she will see herself tending these shoots; and, of course, like everyone called to this particular combination of Christ-like service and leadership in the church, she will have to make judgement calls at various points about letting the unlikely and the incompatible, the obviously good and the downright evil, continue to grow together or to set about weeding them out. Church gardening, ecclesiastical landscaping require of us that we make both operational judgements and value judgements."

At the end of the service there were short speeches from the Archbishop, Rev Colin spoke of his delight in having a new colleague to work alongside and Rev Natasha noting the wonderful weather since arriving in Dublin said she hoped that it was a foreboding of the Irish saying 'the sun always shines on the righteous'.

Following the service there was a very summer reception in the Parish centre with strawberries and cream along with Prosecco and Nozeco.

Thank you to all who helped make the evening such a memorable occasion by helping in anyway and all who attended to make Rev Natasha feel so welcome.



Services for July 2023

Sunday 2	The Fourth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 5	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	St Brigid's (Note change of venue)
Sunday 9	The Fifth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	Late Evening Office	St Thomas'
Wednesday 12	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	St Brigid's (Note change of venue)
Sunday 16	The Second Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 19	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 23	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 26	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 30	The Third Sunday after Trinity	
11.30 a.m.	United Service	St Brigid's

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.

Services for August 2023

Wednesday 2	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 6	Trinity Sunday	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 9	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 13	The First Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer with Baptism	St Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	Compline	St Thomas'
Wednesday 16	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 20	The Second Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 23	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 27	The Third Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Breakfast Church at Cornerstone	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Breakfast Church at Cornerstone	Castleknock Parish Centre
8.00 p.m.	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 30	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.

News

Clean Up Evenings

The old adage “many hands make light work” rang true as a good number of parishioners stepped up to the mark to help with clean-ups, firstly in the grounds of St Mary’s, Clonsilla (pictures in the previous issue) and then around the Parish Centre in Castleknock. The grounds were looking great after all the hard work and we offer a big thank you to all who came along to lend a helping hand.



Sunday Club Gift Day

On Sunday 11th June there was a celebration of our Sunday Club children and their leaders in both Clonsilla and Castleknock. There was a good turnout of children at both services and it has been a real blessing to see our Sunday Clubs grow since September.

The children took part in the services before being presented with books by Rev Colin. There were then some treats for everyone after the service.

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.

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.



Church Picnic

On Sunday 30th July following the United Service in Castleknock all are invited to join us for a Church Picnic. Immediately following the service, we will make our way across the road to the grounds of the Parish Centre or school (we will use the hall if the weather is against us). Simply bring along a picnic for yourself or your family. All are welcome, there will be further details closer to the time.



Volunteers Needed

Hopefully you’ve noticed there has been a lot going on across our Parishes over the last few months as we try to offer church for all. With extra activities of course comes the need for extra helping hands and so we are looking for people to step forward and get involved in an area that may be of interest to them.



Youth Group

Our new Youth Group held a pre summer break BBQ on Sunday 11th June at Castleknock Parish Centre.

It was lovely to see so many of our young people come along while we missed those who were busy with exams.

There was plenty of fun with our games before all enjoying burgers, sausages on the BBQ followed by ice cream.

We look forward to watching this new group grow when we start back again in September where we will continue once a month, mostly on a Sunday late afternoon / evening.

The group is for secondary school aged young people, and we need a few volunteers to help alongside Rev Colin and Rev Natasha. Again, this would involve completing Garda Vetting and Safeguarding training if the person hasn't already done so for another group in our church.

If you think this is something you'd like to be involved with, please speak to Rev Colin.



Wedding Celebration

It was with great joy that we celebrated the marriage of Marvin Gaspar-Quarenta and Grace Hlatshwayo in St Brigid's, Castleknock on Thursday 29th June.

Marvin and Grace were joined by friends and family to mark the occasion and we wish them God's richest blessing as they begin life as husband and wife.



Condolences

We were greatly saddened by the death of Kenneth (Ken) Richards on Thursday 22nd June following a short period of illness. Ken was involved in St Brigid's Church including serving on Select Vestry, serving as Warden, on the school Board of Management, Bowling Club and organising the Church Review deliveries. Our deepest sympathies, prayers and support are with Ken's wife, Beatrice, daughters, Gillian and Jennifer, sons in law, Graham and Albert, grandchildren Megan and Josh, his brothers and sister and wider family circle. Ken's funeral took place in St Brigid's, Castleknock on Tuesday 27th June.



Cornerstone Big Breakfast Church

On Sunday 27th August Breakfast Church returns at our Cornerstone Services. In Clonsilla there will be breakfast before church in the Parish Centre (and maybe after too!). In Castleknock breakfast will be before the service in the Parish Centre where we will stay for worship.

Full details will follow closer to the time.



Castleknock National School



On Wednesday 28th June we welcomed the Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Archbishop Michael Jackson, Minister Jack Chambers, other local representatives, the school Trustees and Board of Management to join with the children of Castleknock National School for a special morning of celebration to mark the 300th (303rd!) anniversary of the school.

Following some opening words by our principle, Mrs Sandra Moloney the whole school stood to sing the new school anthem "Welcome to CNS". Archbishop Michael then prayed for God's blessing upon the school as it moved into the new part of its history and for the new Hub facility. The Taoiseach encouraged all the pupils to continue to explore and grow and try out many things as they would all grow to contribute to the Castleknock area and beyond in their own way. He paid credit to all the staff at the school for their dedication and hard work.

The invited guests then moved to the newly refurbished Hub where The Taoiseach cut the ribbon to declare it officially open before slicing a specially made cake to celebrate the 300th anniversary.



While the invited guests enjoyed tea, coffee and cake the children were delighted with the visit of an ice cream van having already enjoyed a magic show earlier in the morning.

Congratulations and well done to Ms Moloney and all the staff along with the Parents Association for organising such a wonderful event, if the rain couldn't dampen the mood of celebration.



News

Craft Corner

Our last Craft Corner get together was a relaxing morning. Some brought projects they were working on and we all enjoyed lovely treats. It was a shame to cut the beautiful cake!! It has been wonderful seeing people trying various crafts during our first year. Have a lovely summer and we look forward to more creative mornings in September.



Tiny Tots

It is great to have Tiny Tots, our group for pre-school aged children and their parents or carers, up and running again. The plan is to hold Tiny Tots weekly or fortnightly from mid-September. We are asking for a couple more helpers to sign up to become leaders working on a rota base to help with set up and getting involved in activities with the children. This would involve completing Garda Vetting and Safeguarding training if the person hasn't already done so for another group in our church.



We also need a rota of volunteers to help set up and serve tea/ coffee and refreshments. No Garda Vetting is needed for this role and it is hoped that each volunteer would only be needed at most once a month.

If you'd be interested in helping with Tiny Tots please speak to Louise McDonagh.

Parking in St. Brigid's Church

ADVANCE NOTICE

Car Parking Spaces both inside the church gates at St. Brigid's Church and on the roadside, outside the gates, all fall under church property.

These parking facilities are used by people from our community to visit graves and are also often required for events such as funerals and weddings as well as other church and community events.

The parking is also an asset for the community, for school pickups or popping to our local shops.

Unfortunately, an increasing number of people are misusing the parking spaces for all day usage, which causes problems when we have, for example, a large funeral.

During July measures will be put in place for the parking to be monitored by a carpark management company.

Car Parking will be restricted to a maximum of 2 hours between 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. Monday to Friday with clamping in operation during these times.

We hope this will ensure that car parking can continue to be utilised by the local community for the purpose it is intended.



Stella's trip to the Holy Lands

A teaser of my journey to the Holy Land studying the women of the Bible and following in the footsteps of Jesus and a taste of more to come. *Stella xxxxx*

We started from St George's College inside the same compound as St George's Cathedral of Jerusalem in Nablus, to the Holy Church of the Sepulchre, to the Wailing Wall, to the Place of the Skull (Golgotha), to the slab on which Jesus was laid for anointing for burial and on to His tomb. Going to the memorial monument of Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Rebecca, Jacob & Leah. Going to the ancient city of Shiloh where the Ark of Covenant used to reside. Visiting the church of visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, to the tomb of Zechariah onwards to the Church of the Annunciation where majority of languages were used to say the (Magnificat) (I managed to see Irish and my native Yoruba language), to the tomb of Joseph. Going to Bethlehem and Nazareth, visiting the church of the Nativity, the birthplace of Jesus, and the milk grotto. Then on to the sea of Galilea, and the River Jordan (where Jesus was baptised by John), to the city of Capernaum (where Jesus ministry started from), to Jacob's well and the living water well with the woman of Samaria, to the place of the wedding in Canaan. Visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, the Ascension Church with the right foot imprint of Jesus (where the Lord's Prayer



was written in most languages), to the Mount of Olives. Finishing off with walking along the Delarosa for the Palm Sunday triumphant entry, to observing the Holy Eucharist in Emmaus.

Not all light going as it was in the partitioned West Bank. I met the first ever ordained woman Palestinian priest. I went to the Princess Basma Hospital for intellectually challenged children, to the walled off broken city in West Bank with a lot of mural by Banksy, the renowned painter. It



was an honour and a privilege to be part of an amazing group of 17 women, 3 men, a Canon from St Paul's Cathedral in England (who has written a lot of books about the women of the Bible an amazing lecturer full of archaeological facts and evidence), a retired priest and a student cantor from the UK and not forgetting the Dean of St George's Cathedral in Jerusalem. A massive thank you to the Diocesan Council for Mission for giving me this opportunity and, of course, you my beloved brothers and sisters for facilitating my journey. I hope to speak more broadly and distinctly about my journey in the coming weeks and months. Shalom.

Good News from Convent Hasina, Ambohidratrimo, Madagascar

For those parishioners who remember the Feeding Centre that was constructed in 2013 by Money for Madagascar (MfM) on behalf of our Parish, at a cost of €2,000, we bring good news regarding the suitably named Akany Hasina Children's Centre, having just returned from a three-week holiday to Madagascar.

Upon its opening in 2013 the building catered for twenty children, offering them protection and dignity from the elements as they enjoyed one hot meal a day, provided by the Anglican sisters in hygienic and comfortable conditions.

On calling into Convent Hasina in May of this year, we were delighted to see the growth and success of those small seeds planted by the Church of Ireland community in Dublin 15.

The Children's Centre at Convent Hasina now hosts eighty children, from very poor families, who receive two healthy meals a day, overseen by the Sisters. Breakfast is provided by the Polish charity Ankizy Gasy (AG) and lunch is provided by Mary's Meals, who also furnished the colourful enamel cups and plates to serve the meals. Such was the success, the Sisters built a small kitchen beside the Centre, and the original kitchen has been turned into a storeroom for food and utensils.

Activities and support continue to be provided by volunteers, and we were lucky enough, as a visitor rather than a volunteer, to accompany Patti, a Polish physiotherapist, to Convent Hasina. She and her Malagasy counterparts volunteering with AG organized activities, followed by exercises to improve their

muscles and co-ordination. The day finished off with singing and traditional dancing as the AG driver provided the background music with his guitar.

The community has now grown from five nuns in 2012 to eleven today. An annex was built onto the Caretaker's house inside the convent walls, to house three new novices and their supervisor, Sister Fanja. The Children's Centre is very busy and it was wonderful to see what the seeds provided by the generosity of the Col community of Dublin 15 has grown into. It is worth mentioning that every year since 2013 the Select Vestry has included Convent Hasina in their charity list, paid through MfM. The Sisters send their gratitude to all, and continue to remember us all in their prayers.

On a sadder note, Masera (Sister) Isabella passed away on 7th January 2022, from Covid 19. She was only 53 and was the Superior at the time of her death. Our memory of her was, while she was a capable and efficient administrator, she was also fun-loving with a great sense of humour, and loved her calling among the poor of Madagascar. Sister Isabella is a great loss not only to the Anglican family but to the wider community at Ambohidratrimo, Antananarivo, and is buried in the Convent grounds.

To finish on a positive note, the convent is growing its outreach to meet the needs of its community and in this regard the nuns have built a small house beside the Children's Centre to accommodate a homeless family with six children.