

The CMC Times



**Parishes of Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla
April 2024**

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Come join us on **Facebook** for more fun and information
[@CastleknockandMulhuddartwithClonsilla](https://www.facebook.com/CastleknockandMulhuddartwithClonsilla) or on **Twitter**
on [@cmcp Parish](https://twitter.com/cmcp Parish)

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 **May 2024** issue. The deadline for articles / photos will be **Monday 15th April 2024**.

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,

In both Luke and Matthew's Gospel Jesus says "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." It's a Bible verse I've always known by heart as when I was a child I read it every Sunday on our church envelopes. Also as a child I loved the movie Treasure Island based on the book by Robert Louis Stevenson and I often played games which involved hunting for lost "treasure".

Ideas of treasure and treasure chests always seemed so exciting and mysterious.

I find it interesting that Jesus spoke those words as part of the Sermon on the Mount when he laid out a new radical way of following God and interpreting God's law. In the midst of telling us that the very outcasts of society were blessed by God, Jesus also says "do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth" as earthly treasures would quickly disappear. For those of you who can recall finding chocolate coins in your childhood treasure hunts you'll know how quickly treasure can disappear. Now you'll all know by now that chocolate wouldn't be my idea of treasure, but that's the thing about treasure it can't be easily defined.

Of course treasure can immediately make us think of finances and riches, but there are many other things we can treasure, possessions, relationships, our health and even our pets and more. Sadly, we all know too well, either from our own experience or the experience of those we know that the one thing all of these have in common is that they don't last forever.

Jesus doesn't want us to cling too tightly to earthly treasures as they don't define us and they are merely temporary. Jesus wants us to live lives that are appreciative of what we have and to be people who are generous and who look out for the needs of others.

So what does it mean for our treasure and our heart to be as one? For me, it is when we are thankful to God

for all the good gifts we have received and we acknowledge that those gifts are there to be used for God's glory and the good of others. As part of our Lenten Mediation I suggested the question "do we give with a grateful heart?" As I journeyed through Lent I pondered a lot on this question.

When Jesus challenges us to a radical way of living that is generous in spirit, it is meant to be exactly that – challenging. When I bring up the topic of generous giving it is also challenging and involves looking in the mirror. Yet, as challenging as it may be, I would not be fulfilling my role as your Rector if I simply ignored it. We need to be challenged on our giving both of our gifts and talents and our finances. We must examine ourselves and ask ourselves the question where is our heart?

In our churches we are striving to build a community where we grow in faith together, where people feel loved and welcome and where we have a positive impact upon our community and beyond. In order to fulfil this vision we all need to give of our time, gifts and talents. We are so grateful for all those who volunteer in so many ways in our churches. There is a danger in every church community that we over rely on the same people and assume they will do everything, we can then be in danger of burning people out. More people are needed for practical jobs as well as using their gifts for our mission and outreach. A church truly grows when we all give generously of ourselves, we all have a part to play, what is yours?

Then there is the even more challenging topic to broach, our financial giving. We are currently in the midst of a cost of living crisis with many people finding it hard to cope with rising costs in the shops and in our homes. Unfortunately those costs are also affecting us as a



For where
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Matthew 6:21

RECTOR WRITES

church as we seek to both maintain our buildings and carry out mission. I once again encourage you all to attend our Easter General Vestries when, amongst other information, our treasurers present our annual accounts. Those accounts give us a stark reminder of how much it costs to run a church.

As your Rector I purposely do not know, or wish to know, how much any individual or family gives. Financial giving is not about how much you give but rather goes back to our heart for giving. Remember the wonderful parable Jesus told about the widow who gave very little but was deemed to be full of generosity as she gave all that she could? When we look at our income from church giving as a whole we will see that giving rarely increases from year to year. The reality is if we expect a church that is well maintained, that is warm and has activities for all ages we must realise, this can no longer happen when our weekly donation is less than what we'd pay for a cup of coffee.

There are couple of easy steps you can take to help us with our church finances:

- Set up a monthly Standing Order as this enables the Select Vestry to budget year to year. It also ends that hunt for cash in the house on a Sunday morning.

- Complete a Charity tax Return form if you are a tax giver as this enables us to get additional income for any yearly giving of more than €250.
- Support our forthcoming fundraising events and invite others along.
- Perhaps most importantly PRAY and examine if you are giving with a grateful heart.

If you would like more information on the accounts or on how to implement any of the above, please speak to Gordon Hill in Clonsilla or Alex Kitching in Castleknock and Mulhuddart, our two treasurers.

Talking about giving is never easy, it is by definition meant to challenge us. Firstly, we should be encouraged by how many in our churches give so generously of both of their time, gifts and finances to enhance the life of our church community and to further God's Kingdom. As your Rector I cannot thank you enough for all you do. By continuing to seek God's guidance, by continuing in prayer and by continuing to encourage and support one another, I have no doubt we will discover what our treasure truly is and our generosity will flourish.

God bless,

Rev Colin

EASTER GENERAL VESTRIES 2024

The dates for this year's Easter General Vestry Meetings are:

**St Brigid's, Castleknock and St Thomas', Mulhuddart
Tuesday 9th April 8pm (in Castleknock Parish Centre)**

St Mary's, Clonsilla Thursday 18th April 7.30pm

All parishioners are invited to attend. Please remember only those who are on the Easter General Vestry Register are permitted to vote and be elected to positions of office. There is no obligation to become a Select Vestry member by attending the meeting, it's more important to come along and to hear how our churches operate, what has happened in the past year and plans for the future.

All parishioners are strongly encouraged to come along to the meeting for your church. A good turnout at the Easter General Vestry is a good sign of a healthy and growing parish. I also encourage you to pray for these important meetings, giving thanks for those who give of their time and talents in these important roles and for God's wisdom as we strive to blend the sharing of our faith and God's love with the wisdom needed to oversee all the practical needs of running a church.



Services for April 2024

Sunday 7	The Second Sunday of Easter	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 10	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 14	The Third Sunday of Easter	
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Brigid's
Wednesday 17	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 21	The Fourth Sunday of Easter	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 24	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 28	The Fifth Sunday of Easter	
10.00 a.m.	Service of the Word	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Confirmation Service	St Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 31	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 5 May	The Sixth Sunday of Easter: Rogation Sunday	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	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.

**CNS Parents' Association
fundraising event**

Quiz Night

Myos Castleknock

**10 APRIL | WEDNESDAY
8:00 PM**

Advance ticket sales
€10 per person
€40 per team of 4
Scan here to buy now!



Habitat for Humanity Mission Trip 2024

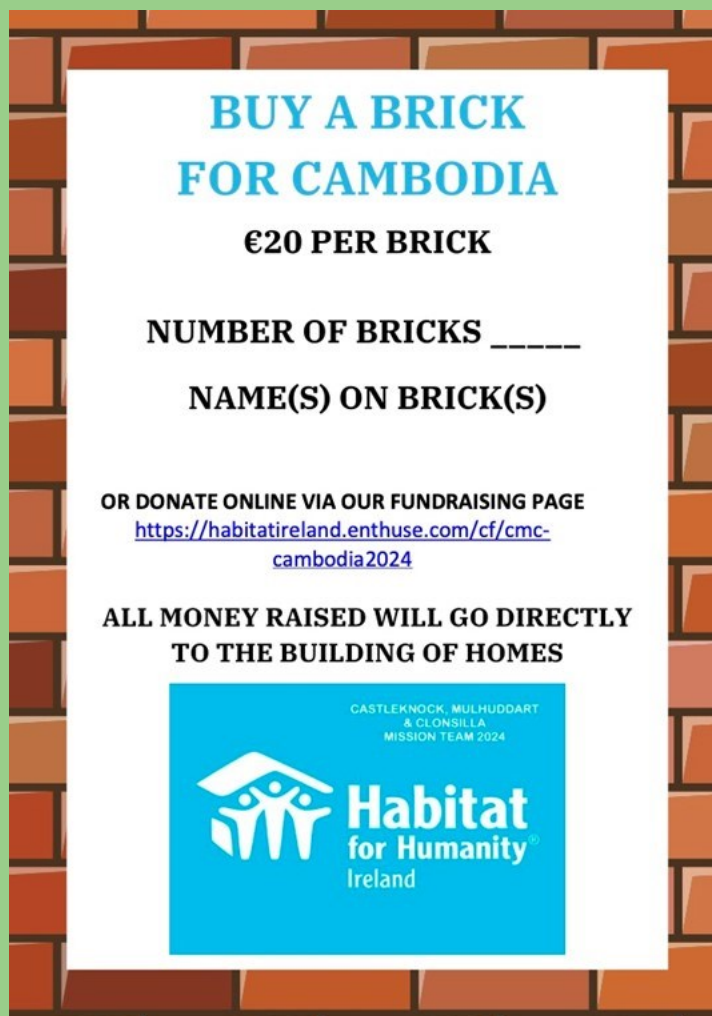
Over the last few weeks the Cambodia team have begun planning for the trip and trying to find ways to involve as many people as possible in the project from home. There will be a team of fourteen flying out on 27th September for what promises to be a life changing experience.

The team are launching our “Buy A Brick’ Fundraiser” for the building of homes in Cambodia. Each brick purchased will go towards the cost of building homes for vulnerable families. Bricks will be €20 each and you can support by buying as many as you might like. The bricks, with names on, will be attached to the wall in the entrance hall in Castleknock Parish Centre with the aim of filling the whole wall. The names will also be on a gift that will be given to the families for their homes to show that our whole community is supporting them.

You can donate to the build at any time in cash or directly through our online fundraising page at <https://habitatireland.enthuse.com/cf/cmc-cambodia2024>. If you donate via our online page and your donation is for our Buy A Brick campaign please note it in the comment section or let one of the team know.

All fundraising will be used to cover the cost of the build (not travel, etc.). Each team member contributes €850 towards the cost of the house building, we have already had one very generous offer to cover the cost of one of the build contributions from someone who is unable to travel but wants to support the team. All contributions along with prayer and encouragement will be greatly appreciated. Remember “you don’t have to lift a hammer to help.”

For more information on Habitat for Humanity Ireland, visit <https://www.habitatireland.org/>



**BUY A BRICK
FOR CAMBODIA**


€20 PER BRICK

NUMBER OF BRICKS _____

NAME(S) ON BRICK(S)

OR DONATE ONLINE VIA OUR FUNDRAISING PAGE
<https://habitatireland.enthuse.com/cf/cmc-cambodia2024>

**ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO DIRECTLY
TO THE BUILDING OF HOMES**



CASTLEKNOCK, MULHUDDART
& CLONSILLA
MISSION TEAM 2024



**Habitat
for Humanity®**
Ireland



**YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIFT
A HAMMER TO HELP**

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024

Palm Sunday Messy Church

One of the biggest blessings in church is to hear children joining in worship and seeing our church family grow.

On Palm Sunday there was a joyous Messy Church with crafts, games, worship and of course chocolate.

Thanks to all who prepared the activities telling the Palm Sunday and Easter story, Judith for playing the piano, Philip and Olive who looked after refreshments and Rev Natasha for leading us in worship and organising the service.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024

It was very special to journey together and with Jesus through Holy Week with our theme this year of “Wait and Listen.” Each evening our services gave us the opportunity for worship and reflection.

We began on Monday evening in St Mary’s with the theme of ‘Perfume’ and Rev Natasha encouraging us to treasure the gift of life and to remember the sacrifice of Mary in giving such an expensive gift to prepare Jesus for the coming cross.

On Tuesday evening we moved to St Brigid’s where our theme was “Walking in the Light.” Rev Colin encouraged us to follow the example of Jesus to chase the daylight even in the darkest of times as the light of Christ overcame the despair of the cross.

We returned to St Mary’s on Wednesday evening when we faced the actions of Judas with the theme of ‘Betrayal.’ Stella gave us on a reflection for what it meant for Judas or any of us to betray Jesus, and importantly the forgiveness that is open to us all.

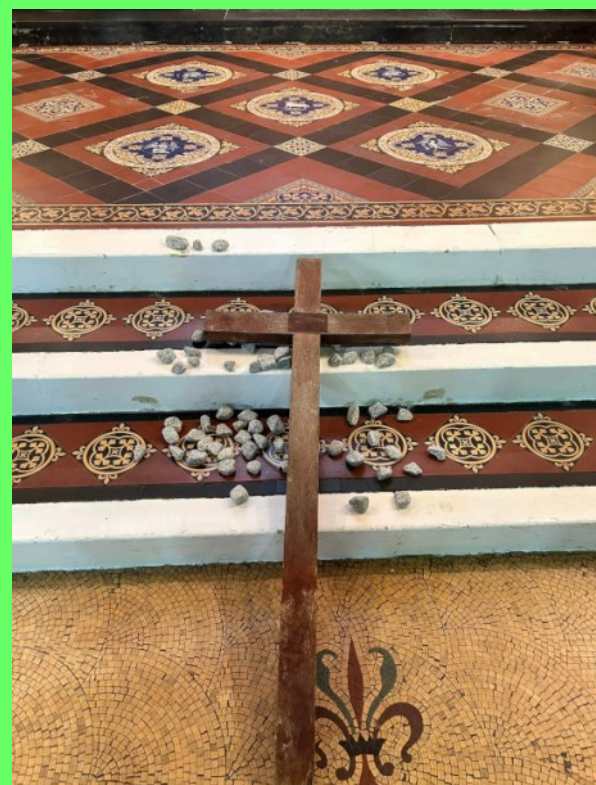
On Thursday evening we experienced something a little different with a Seder Meal in Castleknock Parish Centre. Rev Natasha, with the help of her “12 disciples”, led us through the origins of the Seder Meal along with the washing of feet as we were transported back in time to Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples. We enjoyed a delicious lamb stew (and equally delicious veggie alternatives) as we shared around the tables.

We then moved to St Brigid’s for the stripping of the church before leaving in darkness as we journeyed towards Good Friday.

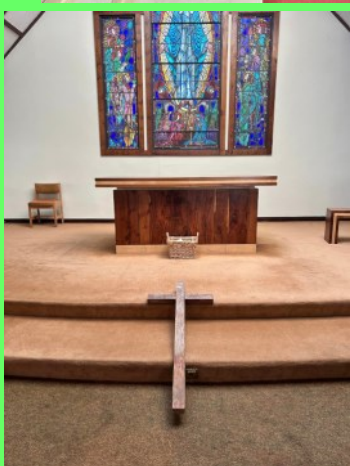
On Good Friday, our annual Ecumenical Walk with the Cross saw us walk together as a community with the cross between the churches of Castleknock with a short time of reflection in each church.

Starting in Laurel Lodge, Rev Colin led our worship before we walked with the cross to Beech Park where Rev Natasha led us. The finally part of the journey led us to St Brigid’s where Father Damian led our worship before we laid stones representing our burden at the cross. We then shared fellowship over refreshments.

On Good Friday evening we ended our Holy Week Services with a deeply moving time at the cross in St Mary’s, Clonsilla.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024

Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday we had a truly amazing morning as we celebrated that Christ is Risen.

From dawn, when the weather didn't stop us sharing Communion outside to our services in Clonsilla and Castleknock that were full of joy and celebration.

We were urged to follow Mary and the Disciples' lead on that first Easter morn when they ran to see the empty tomb and rushed to tell others. How excited and quick are we to share our faith? The whacky egg race was a great reminder of the urgency of that first Easter Morning.

The churches were beautifully decorated and the choir sang a beautiful anthem in two of the services.

Of course the children enjoyed the egg hunting after the services!

Thanks to all who made this morning such a joyous celebration and it was wonderful to see so many out at church.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024



Soup (Sandwich) and Service

It was great to see the Parish Room in Clonsilla filled over the five weeks of Lent for Soup and Service. Each week we journeyed with Jesus and His disciples from the wilderness right up to Palm Sunday in preparation for Holy Week. Each week following our time of worship we enjoyed a delicious bowl of soup and bread. A massive thank you to all who provided food and to Valerie who helped to set up for us each week.

Following on from the success of the Lent Soup and Service it has been suggested that we continue this service once a month. We intend to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month starting in April.

The next Soup and Service (or possibly Sandwich and Service) will be Tuesday 16th April at 12.30pm in St Mary's, Clonsilla.

Our Monthly Prayer Gathering takes place on Monday 15th April at 7.30pm in St Mary's, Clonsilla. All are welcome as we come together in prayer for the world, our churches, those in need, the sick and ourselves.

We should always remember that a growing church is always rooted in prayer.



Play and Pray

Following on from the success of Tiny Tots, Rev Natasha is launching Play and Pray. The concept of the group is to teach children from seven years of age and under more about the Christian faith through fun and interactive games. If you would like more information about Play and Pray, please contact Rev Natasha.



Daffodil Day Coffee Morning

Thank you to all who supported the Daffodil Day Coffee Morning in Castleknock Parish Centre in aid of Irish Cancer Society.

There was such a great buzz in the hall for this annual event which is a fixture in the Castleknock Calendar.

An amazing total of just under €4,500 was raised for this great cause.

A massive thank you to Shirley and all the team who do such a wonderful job organising this event year on year and all who baked the delicious goods.



Craft Corner

Craft Corner members were busy decorating a trio of tea light holders to bring a pretty glow to their homes at our February morning.



Last autumn we planted daffodils in decorated wooden containers and they are cheerfully blooming!

We meet in April on the 29th and please note that our last craft morning will be May 27th before we take a break for the summer.



Youth Group and Confirmation Evening - Taizé

Following on from the success of last year's venture with young people in the Roman Catholic Church we are inviting both Confirmation Class and Youth Group to join with other young people from our community for a youth Taizé Service on Friday evening 12th April at 7pm. in Our Lady Mother of the Church, Castleknock.

We will meet at the church and further details will be emailed to parents in advance.



Tiny Tots Fundraiser

Well done to our Tiny Tots who had an amazing fund raising morning for the Irish Hospice Foundation as well as celebrating Mothering Sunday by planting seeds. They raised a brilliant €200! There were plenty of smiles and it was great to see the hall full of fun.

Thanks to Rev Natasha and our Tiny Tots team of helpers for organising another great morning.

Tiny Tots continues to meet on Thursday mornings in Castleknock Parish Centre except during school holidays.

Tiny Tots finished up for Easter with a great day of making chocolate eggs in baskets. All the children were gifted with an Easter Egg.



CASTLEKNOCK PARISH CENTRE
MAIN STREET, CASTLEKNOCK
3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH 2PM-3.30PM



A PLACE TO GATHER AND FEEL WELCOMED
FOR THE COMMUNITY

The Living Room

We meet again on Thursday 18th April. There'll be a cuppa and a chat for anyone feeling lonely, who is struggling or simply would enjoy some company. This is a safe space where people can just be themselves and meet new people. Please spread the word to anyone you know who might benefit from this outreach.

Confirmation 2024

Confirmation classes come to an end in April ahead of the Confirmation service is to be held in St Brigid's on Sunday 28th April at 11.30am. We only have two classes in April, on Sunday 14th at 6pm in Castleknock Parish Centre and our final class with rehearsal on Sunday 21st at 6pm in St Brigid's Church – parents are to attend this.

We have 19 young people preparing for Confirmation this year so please keep them in your prayers and encourage them when you see them in church.



Food Bank

The first of our monthly collections for the Croí Mháire Foodbank in Blanchardstown have been well supported, so we thank all those who have been generous in giving.

Donations can be left any Sunday in our churches with all donated items will be delivered to the food bank following the fourth Sunday of each month. We are requesting non-perishable food items, any items that are particularly needed will be highlighted in the church notice sheet.

Oisín Kelly Cross, St. Brigid's

Thanks to Derek Gray for doing a wonderful job of making the Cross at the front of St Brigid's gleam. The brass cross was created by renowned Irish Sculpturer Oisín Kelly whose works include "The Children of Lir" sculpture in Dublin's Garden of Remembrance. Derek believes the cross was donated to the Parish before he and Pat arrived so we would love to know more information about how it arrived in the church.



MOTHERS' UNION



Mothers' Union Enrolment on Mothering Sunday

On Sunday 17th March we celebrated the Women of our Churches on this Mothering Sunday.

In Clonsilla we had our annual Mothers' Union enrolment service where we enrolled 3 new members as well as our new committee. Sylvia, our new Branch Leader, was presented with a Mothers' Union brooch by Rev Natasha. The brooch was passed on from Anne our previous Branch Leader.

At both services Rev Natasha gave a powerful and inspirational sermon on the role of women in our churches. All of the women were presented with gifts to mark this special day.



CASTLEKNOCK GIRLS' BRIGADE

The first few months of the year have been very busy in the company, all the girls have been working on their entries for the Craft competitions. The Explorers all made pasta frames, using various pasta shapes to decorate a frame and turning out the most beautiful creations. The Juniors all designed bracelets and necklaces using beads, they are going to be very stylish wearing what they created. Meanwhile, the Seniors and Brigaders had to decorate a GB runner featuring the GB colours of red, white, blue and gold. The end products in each section showed how talented our girls are.



The girls have also been working really hard at polishing their dances for the various competitions at National and Intermediate level. The Explorers and Brigaders entered the National Modern Dance competitions, whilst the Juniors and Seniors entered the Intermediate Modern Dance competition. We had two Seniors enter the Intermediate Solo Skipping competition and three Brigaders enter the Intermediate Brigader Solo competition. We were very proud of all their girls and their performances, especially our soloists as it takes a lot of courage and confidence to get out on the floor and dance and skip on your own. This is the first time since Covid that we have had solo skippers and the first time in eight years since we had Brigader Soloists.

We had some success with the Explorers placed 4th in their competitions and the Seniors placed 3rd in the Modern Dance competition.

The Juniors, Seniors and Brigaders have also been singing their hearts out each Wednesday during February and March in preparation for the Choir Competition. We sang a medley from the musical Beauty and the Beast and had a wonderful evening in Clontarf competing against the other choirs.

On our last Saturday before Easter, the Tiny Tots and Explorers enjoyed a PJ morning as we raised funds for our nominated charity for this year – Oscar's Kids. The girls had fun doing their dancing and skipping in their PJs and also enjoyed making Easter crafts and baked Easter nests.

We are looking forward to our Annual Display which will be held on Friday 26 April in Castleknock Community College at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and support the girls as they show off some of the work they have done this year.

Olive Good



PARISH OF CASTLEKNOCK AND
MULHUDDART WITH CLONSILLA

Midsummer Parish

✦ **BBQ** ✦



Evening of
Fri 21st
June
2024

Tyrellstown
House

Proceeds in aid of church funds

Tickets
Available
Soon
(over 18's)