

# The CMC Times

A group of approximately 20 children and a few adults are posed in the aisle of a church. They are holding long, thin wooden staffs. The children are dressed in casual clothing, including hoodies, t-shirts, and dresses. The church interior features high ceilings, arched windows with stained glass, and a large wooden organ loft in the background. The lighting is warm and indoor.

Parishes of Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla  
September 2024

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**Parish Website:** [www.castleknock.dublin.anglican.org](http://www.castleknock.dublin.anglican.org)

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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  
**October 2024** issue. The deadline for articles /  
photos will be **Friday 13th September 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

Anne O'Connor (Clonsilla)



# RECTOR WRITES



Dear Friends,

As we entered August this year, for the first time in my years of ordained ministry, I found myself with a sense of dread as I looked ahead to September and the return to activities, meetings and busyness. It wasn't that I don't love my role as your Rector or that I am any less enthusiastic or grateful to be serving God's church. I was simply worn out from an extremely busy few months that this year, for a number of reasons, extended through July and deep into the usually quieter summer period.

Thankfully August has proven to be a quieter month when not only did I manage a few days holiday with family, I was also able to take a short time of retreat. As the retreat was a bit last minute, I wasn't able to go to a typical retreat type centre but rather was able to take advantage of friend's house in the countryside when they themselves were on holiday. Of course I arrived for the retreat complete with my laptop, planning to put together all my notes for the CMC Times before it dawned on me that that wasn't what these couple of days were meant to be about. This was an opportunity for me to read, spend time in prayer, go for walks and reflect. It was an opportunity to rest and recharge, not simply an excuse to do work in a different setting. So in the end the laptop didn't come out of its bag and I simply retreated and rested.

If we stop to think about it, how many of us drive our cars down to the last millimetre of fuel? How often do we allow our mobile phones to get down to one percent battery? I imagine most of us refuel on or before the red warning light comes on, and the same with our phones, which we plug into the charger when the battery is getting low. Why then do we treat ourselves differently? Why are we happy to often let our own energy levels run so low? When I look at modern living I'm often left wondering why we keep going at such a pace, where is the time to re-charge or re-energise ourselves?

When Moses met with God on Mount Sinai, one of the ten rules of living a Godly life was to keep the sabbath day holy. Now you may be thinking the Rector's about to give you a lecture about coming to church and want to stop reading, but I'm not. Of course worshipping together as a church family on a Sunday is an important part of the Christian life, but the sabbath principle for me is much more than church attendance. In Mark's Gospel Jesus tells

us that the sabbath was made for us rather than us being made for the sabbath. In other words the sabbath was never meant to be about judging whether or not we go to church or a hardened law. No, the sabbath is about finding that balance between work and rest. The sabbath gives us the opportunity to slow down from life's busyness and preoccupations to refocus our hearts and minds.

The sabbath reminds us that God wants to replenish us, not see us exhausted. Jesus said "come to me all who are weary, and you will find rest". Jesus himself throughout the Gospels leaves behind the hustle and bustle to rest, to pray and to re-energise. Spending time in God's presence is one (very important) way for us to re-charge but so is rest itself, or spending time relaxing and doing something you enjoy with people you love or on your own.

The pace of life in 2024 is so different to what it was twenty or thirty years ago. People work longer hours, many people have taken on a second job, in most homes all the adults have to be out working to pay the bills. There are so many activities, so many places to be that there is no natural time to stop. How many of our young parents spend afternoons, evenings and weekends driving their children from one activity to the next. Our shops don't close, our computers and phones don't shut down...

September sees so many things starting again after the summer break. I hope you had the opportunity to re-charge either at home or on holiday over July and August, but let's not forget that even the most advanced car or the latest technological gadget will run out of juice even after being fully charged. Life is too busy, we simply can't keep up the pace whether that be at work, at sports and other clubs or dare I say it, even in church activities.

Let's make space for a sabbath, for rest, for re-energising for spending time in God's presence and in the presence of those we love, not just dropping them off at another activity. Someone once said "a well spent sabbath brings new energy and enthusiasm for the week ahead". So as we enter this new season, as the diaries begin to fill up, maybe we need to write in at least one day a week "**sabbath – a time to rest**".

God bless,  
*Rev Colin*

# BIBLE EXPLORERS DAY

What an amazing day we had at Bible Explorers at the end of August. The children were quite literally taken on a journey through the whole of the Bible with stories, songs, crafts, games and even some grape crushing with bare feet.

The children were so enthusiastic in learning the stories, answering questions and asking questions too.

A massive thank you to all the children who came along, our wonderful group of leaders who gave up their Saturday to help out and a special thanks to Rev Natasha who organised the day and put so much work into making it quite simply amazing!

We definitely look forward to more days like today in the future!



## Services for September 2024

<b>Sunday 1</b>	<b>The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
<b>Wednesday 4</b>	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
<b>Sunday 8</b>	<b>The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Brigid's
3.00 p.m.	Ecumenical Graveyard Service	St Mary's
8.00 p.m.	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
<b>Wednesday 11</b>	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
<b>Sunday 15</b>	<b>The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
11.30 a.m.	United Holy Communion Service and Commissioning for the Cambodia Team	St Brigid's
<b>Wednesday 18</b>	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
<b>Sunday 22</b>	<b>The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
10.00 a.m.	Service of the Word	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Cornerstone	St Brigid's
3.00 p.m.	Harvest Thanksgiving	St Thomas'
<b>Wednesday 25</b>	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
<b>Sunday 29</b>	<b>The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	
10.00 a.m.	United Holy Communion Service	St Mary's
4.00 p.m.	Celebration of Pets	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.



# PET

## BLESSING SERVICE

Join us at

# 4 PM

# 29TH

# SEPTEMBER

at Castleknock

Parish Centre as we give  
thanks for all  
creatures Great and  
small

**All well behaved pets and their owners welcome!**

### The Living Room

Following a review of our parish activities over the summer, we have decided to try the Living Room twice a month from September on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month in order for it to become a more regular fixture in peoples diaries.

The Living Room is simply a place to meet for a cuppa and chat and make new friendships. We also plan to introduce some talks and activities.

If you know anyone who may be interested in coming along, whether a parishioner or someone from outside the parish, please do encourage them to join us, or even bring them along yourself.

CASTLEKNOCK PARISH CENTRE  
MAIN STREET, CASTLEKNOCK  
1ST & 3RD THURSDAY'S  
OF THE MONTH 2PM-3.30PM

A PLACE TO GATHER AND FEEL WELCOMED  
FOR THE COMMUNITY  
OPEN TO ALL

# PARISH WINTER / CHRISTMAS EVENT

Over the years the Winter Fair has become a bit of a tradition in the annual life of our Parish having restarted in 2022 following the pandemic. Of course the Winter Fair has changed forms over the years having been a Christmas Fair in December and then moving into November and changing the name to Winter. Over the years the Fair has provided a wonderful community event and kicked off the Christmas period. We are very thankful for all who have helped make the Fair such a great success over the years.

Of course it is always good practice to evaluate all that we do and see if there may be new ideas that can add to the life of our parishes and the community. In August a meeting was held to look at planning for this year's event with a number of people who had been involved in the Winter Fair over the years in attendance. Following discussion all who gathered were in agreement that we would try something a little bit different leading into a number of new events, which we all felt would be well received and add to our aim of both raising some funds and providing events for the whole community.

The following was agreed at the meeting:

- For this year we are going to change the concept of the fair to a more Arts and Crafts Fair building on the successful summer fair but with extra elements to help us get into the Christmas spirit. Alongside bringing in external craft sellers, both inside and outside the Parish Centre, and artists, we will have our normal refreshments as well as our ever popular cake sale. The big Christmas raffle will be a part of the day alongside our ever popular visitor in his red suit (in an all new grotto). The day, which will have a whole new name, will take place on Sunday 24th November from 12.30pm – 5.00pm. Please put the date in your diary and think how you can help out, there will be set up on the Saturday as well as take down following the event.
- In many ways replicating the traditional stalls of the Winter Fair but adding some new extra elements especially aimed at families and children, we will hold a Fair in May 2025. This will be like an old style parish fete with lots of fun, food and stalls. Get the date of Saturday 16th May into your diary now, it's going to be great.
- 2025 will see our first ever parish Christmas Tree Festival in St Brigid's which will be a whole weekend celebration for the whole community. Christmas Tree Festivals are a spectacular way of telling both the Christmas story as well as our community story. We will be inviting local schools, clubs, businesses, etc., to take part. Alongside the festival we will have an arts and craft fair and lots of other activities.

We look forward to building on the wonderful foundations of the Winter Fair with these new ideas that we trust will be a big hit with everyone.

# WANDER AND WONDER

Two of our most popular Wander and Wonders were in St Catherine's Park and our guided walk along the Canal from Clonsilla.

We had a lovely afternoon on Sunday 14th July as we met in St Catherine's Park. The weather was good to us as we enjoyed a walk around the park, stopping off for playtime for the dogs.

Following our walk we enjoyed coffee and ice cream. It was great to walk and chat, both humans and dogs!

Our final Wander and Wonder on a glorious afternoon led us on an insightful and very interesting history walk along the Canal from St Mary's to Porterstown.

Thanks to Christine from Clonsilla and Porterstown Heritage Society for leading our walk and all the fascinating facts and stories along the way.

Wander and Wonder was designed to give an opportunity for those who weren't on holiday to meet up over the summer and enjoy some exercise and fresh air along with each other's company. I hope everyone who made it along enjoyed the walks and I look forward to organising more next summer when we may even venture further afield.





## Tiny Tots Summer Get Together

Some of our Tiny Tots and their parents / carers got together over the summer in Farmleigh for a catch up. It was lovely to see our little friends meeting up again.



## Wednesday Club

In July the Wednesday Club enjoyed a lovely outing on Thursday 25th July to Malahide complete with lunch in the Grand Hotel. The group set off on the train to Malahide where they enjoyed lunch before a leisurely walk through the village stopping for coffee and some shopping along the way.

It was lovely to get together and enjoy the chat and company. We look forward to the next outing.



## Summer Arts and Crafts Fair

On Sunday 28th July we had a wonderful afternoon at our Summer Arts and Crafts Fair. The sun was shining and it was great to see so many come along to support the local artists and crafters. There was a wide range of stalls all laden with unique hand crafted items showcasing a wide array of local talent.

Alongside the stalls there was an art exhibition showcasing beautiful paintings by local artists including a number of our own parishioners. There was tea, coffee and tray bakes on offer for those in need of a snack as well as a pizza van providing a delicious lunch option.

Thank you to all who helped out with the refreshments and to Ruby, Elaine and Emma for organising this great event. The event also raised some funds for our churches.

We look forward to seeing another fair in future and building on this great success.



## 20 years of Jenny

Mid July marked 20 years since Jenny joined us to work in the Parish Office. In that time Jenny has helped three Rectors and numerous Curates as well as all of our parishioners and the wider community.



Jenny is an invaluable member of our team for both her work in the Parish and her expertise in dealing with families seeking a resting place for their loved ones.

We are so thankful for all Jenny does and hope she's with us for a few more years yet.

Rev Colin and Rev Natasha presented Jenny with some flowers to mark the milestone.

## Boys' Brigade

Boys' Brigade will return for an exciting new session on 17th September. Anchors and Juniors will meet in the Parish centre on Tuesday evenings from 6.30pm-7.30pm.



Boys' Brigade is open to all school aged children - boys and girls! We welcome anyone interested in joining to drop in on our opening night.

In addition, we would love to be able to offer a session for our Company Section and are looking for volunteers to run this. If you feel you could help support our older boys (6th class and upwards) in sports, games and other useful skills, please get in contact with Judith or Rev Colin.

*The BB Team*

## Blessing of the Schoolbags Service and Church Picnic

Following on from the Bible Explorers Day, we were truly blessed with over 50 children and young people bringing their school bags to St Brigid's for our Blessing of Schoolbags and the new school year.



It was a joyous celebration as we worshipped together with Rev Natasha sharing the contents of her bag as she shared how the ordinary things connect us to our extraordinary God. Rev Colin led the prayers of Blessing with everyone receiving a tag for their backpacks for back to school blessings.

It was great to see the hall filled after church for our picnic.



## Sympathies

Our deepest sympathies to the family of Sarah Goulding whose funeral service took place in St Mary's, Clonsilla on 18th July before committal in Dardistown cemetery.



## Monthly Prayer Gathering

In August a small group of us met in Castleknock Parish Centre to pray for our community. The plan was to walk through the village stopping at various points to pray but it was a wet and windy evening so we walked through the village in our minds as we prayed together.

On Monday 16th September we meet in St Mary's, Clonsilla. Again the plan will be to go for a short walk around the village but of course, once again, this is weather permitting.

It is so important that we pray for our churches, our community and one another so please plan to join us at our Monthly Prayer Gatherings when you can.



## Midweek Holy Communion

It's worth remembering our midweek Holy Communion which has become so much of an institution that it could easily be taken for granted. Meeting in the Mahary Room in Castleknock Parish Centre every Wednesday morning at 10.30am, the short service ensures that we continue with church tradition to celebrate the Eucharist every week in our parishes.

There is a strong cohort of regulars who attend the service while others join us from time to time. A large part of meeting together is the chat over refreshments following the service. If you're ever free on a Wednesday morning you'd be more than welcome to join us.

## Ministry Team

We are delighted to have added Olive, Blessing and Femi to our ministry team in the Parish joining Stella alongside Rev Colin and



Rev Natasha. The ministry team will meet together for the first time in September to pray and to plan for the worship of our churches.

You may have noticed that on occasional Sundays, Rev Colin or Rev Natasha haven't been taking part in the services. This is to enable our new Readers to get more experience and encourage them as they continue to grow in their new roles as well as giving Stella the opportunity to use her gifts in preaching and leading worship. It also gives our two full time clergy the opportunity to have the sabbath rest that Rev Colin speaks about in his "Rector Writes" of this edition of the CMC Times.

Please continue to encourage and pray for the ministry team as they oversee the worship and pastoral care of our church family.

## Food Bank

We continue to serve our local community through donations to the Foodbank which helps a large number of local households who are struggling in these difficult financial times.

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.

# Habitat for Humanity Mission Trip 2024

It is hard to believe that our Parish Mission Trip to Cambodia with Habitat for Humanity is only a couple of weeks away.

Thanks to Ronan Lynch's Allcare Pharmacy, Castleknock and Dr Geoff at Oakwood Medical Centre, Castleknock for sorting the vaccinations for the team. We are always seeking to support and work with our local community, thanks to Ronan and Geoff for your support.

The team will meet on Tuesday 3rd September as they begin their final preparations before heading out on 27th September. The team will be working alongside local builders in Cambodia, the host family and Habitat for Humanity in Cambodia to build a new home for a family living in poverty. Having a safe place to live transforms lives and we as a Parish will continue to work alongside Habitat for Humanity in Ireland and overseas to work towards a world where everyone has a safe place to live.

On Sunday 15th September, we will welcome Archbishop Michael Jackson to a United Service in Castleknock to commission the team and pray for them ahead of the trip. At the refreshments that morning any donations will go towards the cost of the build. This will be a United Service as we encourage all of our church family to come together to welcome the Archbishop and to support the Cambodia team.

While the team is made up of 14 people this mission trip is a representation of us as a Parish in our call to bring God's love to all. Thank you to all who have supported the team through the Buy A Brick Campaign. The campaign comes to a close on Sunday 15th September (although donations will still be accepted beyond that date for the build).

Anyone who'd like to join in supporting the build, can buy a brick through Rev Colin or the team or online at <https://habitatireland.enthouse.com/cf/cmc-cambodia2024>.

All prayers, support and encouragement really does mean so much to those who will travel as we want to ensure this project is embraced by our whole church community.

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.enthouse.com/cf/cmc-cambodia2024>

ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO DIRECTLY TO THE BUILDING OF HOMES



CASTLEKNOCK, MULHUDDART & CLONSILLA MISSION TEAM 2024



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



## Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Marianne and Angus who were married on Saturday 16th July in a wonderful celebration in St Brigid's, Castleknock. We wish them both God's richest blessing as they begin married life.



## Cycle Challenge 2024

Well done Gordon and George who completed the Atlantic to the Med cycle in aid of the Irish Hospice Foundation over the summer.

They had great support for their fundraising on their static cycle in Castleknock last month.

Well done on the efforts for a great cause, now to put the feet up!



## Girls' Brigade

It has been an exciting summer in GB as we congratulate Jenny Weekes on the birth of her daughter, Hailey, in July.

Now that the children have returned to school, we hope that all our members are feeling well-rested after their summer holidays and are looking forward to returning to GB. The leaders have met to organise our programme for the upcoming session and are looking forward to welcoming all the girls back along with new members.

Girls' Brigade will recommence on Wednesday 18th September in the Parish Centre at 7.00 pm for the Juniors, Seniors and Brigaders (age 9- 17 years).

Girls' Brigade will recommence on Saturday 21st September in the Parish Centre at 10.00 am for the Tiny Tots and Explorers (3-8 year olds).

New members in all sections are very welcome, so if you know any girls (age 3 – 17) that would like to join Castleknock Girls' Brigade, please contact Olive at 087 2451310 or email [42ndcocastleknock@girlsbrigadeirl.ie](mailto:42ndcocastleknock@girlsbrigadeirl.ie) to get details of how to sign up for a trial period.



## Double Congratulations

Congratulations to Olive Good and the class of 2023 on graduating from the Certificate in Christian Theology



and Practice as part of her training to become a Diocesan Reader. The ceremony took place in Trinity on 12th July. We are so encouraged that Olive took this step and look forward to how God will use her to serve both our churches and the United Diocese.

It was double congratulations for Olive as she has been appointed as the new school administrator for Castleknock National School. Olive replaces Elaine Watters who has been a much loved member of the staff team and we thank her for her service to our school.

## Mulhuddart Harvest Thanksgiving

Our annual Harvest Thanksgiving service will take place in St Thomas', Mulhuddart on Sunday 22nd September at 3pm. We are delighted to be welcoming Rev Trevor Holmes, one of the full time Diocesan Hospital Chaplains as our guest preacher.

Following the service we are very thankful to the generosity of the Wilkinson family who will be hosting us for refreshments in Tyrellstown House.

All are welcome so please come and join us as we give thanks to God for the gift of the harvest.

Our joint harvest for Castleknock and Clonsilla will be on Sunday 13th October in St Brigid's, Castleknock.

At both Harvest services we will have a special collection of non-perishable food items for the Foodbank.

## Musicians and Singers Wanted

We are looking to put together a band for Cornerstone. We usually play more modern hymns at these services, and sometimes the organ isn't the best instrument for the job! If you play the guitar, piano, violin, flute, cajón or (almost!) any other instrument, and would be interested in playing a few hymns once a month, please let Andrew know.

We'd also like to have a couple of singers to lead the singing and give the congregation a little more confidence with some of the more unfamiliar songs. So whether you're in the choir or not, we'd be so grateful if you want to contribute.

We're always looking for ways to include as many people as possible in our worship. Psalm 33:2-3 says to 'give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings', showing that whether we play or sing hymns, we use our talents for the glory of God!


## Call for new choir members

The month I joined, I mentioned that when I was a baby in church, the organ playing was the only thing that stopped me from acting up and crying in church! Music is a hugely important part of our worship, and singing in choir is a great way to contribute towards it, while also meeting fellow singers, learning some fun, challenging and beautiful new pieces, as well as singing the hymns (and getting to sit up in the gallery in Castleknock!).

The choir has been on a break for the summer holidays, but will rehearse again from Tuesday 3rd September. We rehearse every second Tuesday from 7:30-8:30 in St Brigid's Castleknock. If you are interested in joining, please talk to Andrew (or any of our other choir members!). We always welcome new members and there's no better time to join than the start of the new year of singing.




# TINY TOTS



**Castleknock Parish Centre**  
**Every Thursday 10am-11:30am**  
**During Term Time**

You are warmly invited to  
join us for Tiny Tots,  
Our gathering place for  
all pre-school children  
and their parents/carers

**€3 Suggested donation for tea  
and coffee**



Contact Natasha on **0892690097** for more details.

# CLO SILLA

## HERITAGE FESTIVAL

**Sat 14<sup>TH</sup> & Sun 15<sup>TH</sup> September**

- \* Barge Trips on the Royal Canal \*
- \* Stand Up Paddleboarding Sessions \*
- \* Walk of Luttrellstown Parklands \*
- \* Pop up Museum of Clonsilla \*
- \* Music in Shackleton's Gardens \*
- \* Tour of St Mochta's Church \*
- \* Plein Air Art Competition \*
- \* Tour of Beechpark Farm \*
- \* Clonsilla & Royal Canal Heritage Walk \*
- \* Concert in St Mary's Church \*
- \* Kids Activities \*

**See [Clonsillaheritage.ie](http://Clonsillaheritage.ie) &  
Eventbrite for details!**



**Clonsilla & Porterstown  
Heritage Society (CPHS)**



Graphic Design | Digital & Litho Print | Display

WITH SUPPORT FROM  
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