

The CMC Times



Parishes of Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla
July / August 2025

Parish contacts:

Rector: Rev. Colin McConaghie
087 346 6140

Diocesan Lay Readers: Stella Obe (087 2237402) &
Olive Good (087 2451310)

Parish Readers: Femi Atoyebi &
Blessing Obioha

Parish Website: www.castleknock.dublin.anglican.org

Parish Administrator: Jennifer McGrath

Parish Office:

Castleknock Parish Office, Main Street, Castleknock,
Dublin 15.

01 820 0040

Hours: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. weekdays
(Closed Wednesday)

cmcparishoffice@gmail.com

Castleknock National School:

Principal: Mrs Sandra Moloney
01 820 2611

The CMC Times:
Editor: Philip Good

If you wish to comment on or contribute to The CMC
Times, the email address is:

thecmctimes@gmail.com

Come join us on **Facebook** for more fun and information
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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 a
double issue for **September 2025**. The deadline
for articles / photos will be **Friday 15th August
2025**.

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,

Not long after the July and August edition of the CMC Times is out, Janice and I will be boarding a plane to Australia for what could be described of a trip of a lifetime taking in the three British and Irish Lion's rugby test matches against Australia. Of course it isn't all rugby as we get to visit Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and even a few days in New Zealand but rugby and the Lions play a central role to the holiday.

As many of you know I love my rugby and I've also held in awe the legion and tradition of the British and Irish Lions. For those who are thinking what is this Lions he is talking about, The British & Irish Lions is a rugby union team selected from players eligible for the national teams of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The Lions are a test side and most often select players who have already played for their national team, although they can pick uncapped players who are eligible for any of the four unions. The team tours every four years, with these tours rotating between Australia, New Zealand and South Africa in order. In rugby folklore the Lions tours to New Zealand in 1971 and South Africa in 1974 are the stuff of legends. In recent years the number of fans traveling across the world to form the "sea of red" has grown and grown with some 40,000 Lions fans expected in Australia (not counting the ex-pat population).

This team of players from across four nations (and often players born across the globe) coming together as one only a few months after scrapping it out in the 6 Nations, has always, for me, been the pinnacle of rugby. I really like the idea of the four nations coming together

to form one team to take on the best sides in rugby.

A few weeks ago we celebrated Pentecost Sunday, a day that reminds us of the breaking down of barriers between peoples of different nations so all could come together to worship God. As I look around our churches and our community I feel it is a real blessing that we are a church family that is made up of people from many backgrounds, cultures and countries. Different accents, different skin colours and different languages come together as one on a weekly basis as we worship God together with one voice.

When I cheer on the Lions in Australia, I'll be joined in voice with English, Scots, Welsh (and others), normally the banter is rife between the four rugby nations, but for a little while we will be one.

In an age where there are voices trying desperately to cause division and barriers based on race or the colour of ones skin, we must continue to be a church and a people that welcomes all and believes that all are equal under God. Archbishop John McDowell, writing in response to recent unrest in the north, said:

"As disciples of Jesus Christ, called to respect the dignity of every person made in the image of God, we should put ourselves in the shoes of someone trapped inside a house or a hostel where an angry mob gathers outside. It must be utterly terrifying. Imagine the lasting impact of such terror on a child."

I rejoice in the diversity of our church family and am thankful to the impact each person has upon our witness as a Christian community. May that always be

RECTOR WRITES

the case and may we be known as a place where all are welcomed and all are loved.

To all who are heading off on holiday in July and August, I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable break from the routine of everyday life. For those who are around over the summer months, we look forward to worshipping together, to wandering and wondering and to seeing as

many children as possible at our Holiday Bible Club.

God bless.

Rev Colin

Habitat for Humanity Mission Trip 2026

Following the visit of Jenny Williams, CEO Habitat for Humanity Ireland, to our churches in May, we had a follow up meeting on 17th June. It was encouraging to see a good number come along to hear about the trip along with those who are interested but couldn't make it on the evening. There was a good mix of those who travelled in 2024 and new faces as we explored the work of Habitat for Humanity in Ireland and Cambodia. We also looked at a typical build in Cambodia and what it would look like and how the experience is life changing not just for the family receiving a new home but just as much for those who volunteer.

The agenda for Cambodia 2026 looks like:

- Travel to Cambodia sometime between 3rd and 17th July 2026
- Build location to be in the Phnom Penh region
- Total length of trip to be no more than 13 days to include an opportunity to sight see following the build.

Booking is now open for the trip along with the minimum €100 deposit. If anyone is interested, please speak to Rev Colin as soon as possible. We need to confirm if we have sufficient volunteers to form a team by Tuesday 7th July.

Habitat for Humanity ReStore Glasnevin

We are delighted that Habitat for Humanity Ireland will be opening a new ReStore in the autumn this year in Glasnevin.

ReStore is Habitat for Humanity's social enterprise which directly tackles poverty in Ireland; helping families access low cost home improvement materials, providing training and employability support and diverting tons of material from landfill to protect the planet. ReStore is a wonderful place to donate pre-loved furniture, or even a kitchen! ReStore is also a great place for volunteering.

In order to ensure ReStore is ready in time Habitat are calling on volunteers to help with the preparations. Rev Colin has asked for slots in August and September for us to send a team to help out. Keep an eye out for dates and further details.





HOLIDAY CLUB



Explore building God's kingdom with blocks and games



Venue: Castleknock Parish Centre

Dates: Wednesday 20th - Friday 22nd August 2025

Time: 6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.

To register: Forms Available from Church or Parish Office

Services for July 2025

Wednesday 2	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	
Sunday 6	The Third Sunday after Trinity	
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 Fourth 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.	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 16	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 20	The Fifth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 23	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 27	The Sixth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Service of the Word	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Cornerstone	St Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	The Litany	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.

The Live streaming will be taking a break on Sundays 20th and 27th July.

Services for August 2025

Sunday 3	The Seventh Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St Brigid's
Wednesday 6	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 10	The Eighth 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.	Evening Prayer	St Thomas'
Wednesday 13	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 17	The Ninth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St Brigid's
Wednesday 20	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 24	The Tenth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Service of the Word with Blessing of the School Bags	St Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Cornerstone with Blessing of the School Bags	St Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
Wednesday 27	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 31	The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	United Service	St Mary'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.

SUNDAY CLUB GIFT DAY AND CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC

What a wonderful morning of celebration we had on Pentecost Sunday.

In both Clonsilla and Castleknock we celebrated our Sunday Club children and leaders with our Sunday Club Gift Day. There was a special presentation in Castleknock as Jillian Connolly stepped down after 10 years of co-ordinating Sunday Club in Castleknock. We thanked Jillian for her enthusiasm and commitment over the years and all our leaders for making Sunday Club a great place for children to learn about God.

In both churches the children were delighted to receive a wonderful book. The younger ones received activity books with the older children receiving stories from the Bible.

We also celebrated the Baptism of Natalie in Castleknock as she was joined by family and friends as we welcomed her into the church family.

Following the service in Castleknock we had our church family picnic. Despite the weather we were able to enjoy time together and everyone enjoyed the ice cream thanks to Janice, Olive and Victoria! It was great to see so many gather around the tables and to hear all the chat and laughter.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOICE OF SHELTER AWARD



On Friday 13th June Rev Colin was presented with the “Voice of Shelter” Award at the Habitat for Humanity Ireland Community Gathering in the Harbour Masters Building in Belfast. The award is in recognition of promoting

the work of Habitat and spreading the message that everyone deserves a safe place to call home. Rev Colin was nominated because of his raising awareness of Habitat’s work overseas before and after our church mission trip to Cambodia last year and also for promoting the work of Habitat ReStore.

The Habitat for Humanity Ireland social media reported: *“This year’s ‘Voice for Shelter’ was awarded to Reverend Colin McConaghie.*

Reverend Colin’s passion for Habitat’s mission, locally and globally, has always been clear from the passionate way he speaks about his experiences, whether in church, with the public or even in the media. Colin’s continued focus on the need and impact of Habitat’s work is an important example of the potential for volunteers to continue to build beyond a trip, by becoming a powerful voice for shelter.”



On accepting the award Rev Colin spoke of his own time as a volunteer in ReStore Lisburn and the welcome he had received from the Habitat family and also the impact of a new home had clearly had on our host family in Cambodia. In referencing these experiences he stated how he couldn’t not speak of the work of Habitat and the need for suitable homes for all, encouraging



everyone to continue to speak up for housing justice.

It was a wonderful evening celebrating the volunteers who make up the Habitat family. It was lovely to see a number of photos from our team who travelled to Cambodia last year.

The evening was truly inspirational and definitely set the mood for our proposed team for Cambodia 2026.

Bowling Club Dinner

Our Bowling Club held their end of year Dinner recently.

It was a great evening of chat and laughter ending another great year of bowling.

There will be occasional opportunities to bowl over the summer months if anyone would like to give it a go!

From September the Bowling Club will meet every Wednesday evening (and sometimes Friday too) in Castleknock Parish Centre as well as competing in a number of church bowling competitions. Anyone is welcome to come along and try whether you've played before or a complete beginner.



Holiday Bible Club

We are very excited to be hosting our Holiday Bible Club "Kingdom Builders" in August. We meet from Wednesday 20th – Friday 22nd from 6pm -7.30pm in Castleknock Parish Centre, The Friday evening will be a special family night with the parents and families invited to come along for a BBQ.

"Kingdom Builders" will help the children understand what it means to be a part of God's Kingdom referencing the popular games Minecraft, Roblox and Lego. There will be Bible stories, songs, crafts, games and generally just a lot of fun!

"Kingdom Builders" is open to all children who will be of primary school age in September this year (i.e. those starting junior infants to 6th class). Our teenagers can get involved too as young leaders who will help the younger children enjoy the activities.

Consent forms can be completed in advance and will be available through church or the Parish Office. Signing up in advance will give us a better indication of numbers.

We do of course need adult helpers so if you are able to help, please speak to Rev Colin. There will be a leaders meeting on Monday evening 18th August.

Croí Mháire Foodbank

We continue to support the Croí Mháire Foodbank. The Foodbank provide help to individuals and families who are struggling in our local area. Donations of non-perishable food items can be left at any of our services with a focus being on the 4th Sunday of each month.

THREE MEN ON THEIR BIKES

Three of our parishioners set off on their bikes in June to cycle from Munich to Milan in aid of the Irish Hospice Foundation.

Following their static cycle fundraiser over the Castleknock Festival Weekend (with a little help from some other parishioners) George, Gordon and Syd flew to Munich to begin the gruelling trek across mountain ranges to their destination in Milan. Each day set a new challenge with time in the saddle between five and eight hours covering distance of 130 – 150km, with climbs!

Well done to all three on completing the challenge, it was tiring just getting the updates. If anyone would like to donate to this great cause please speak to one of the guys.



“Blue”

by Emily Abayawickrema

One of our wonderfully talented teenagers Emily recently had a poem published in the Irish Times. ‘Blue’ is the story of what would happen to the world if the colour blue was lost. It is a startling reminder of the dangers of our lack of care for the created world and is a reverse of the story of God’s creation of the earth. Well done to Emily on this very provocative piece.

On day one, blue disappeared from our
screens;
the glare of a phone no longer hurt your eyes in
the dark,
images became impossible to view,
magic left movies.

On day two, it vanished from our bodies;
veins became invisible,
every boy who’d been told he had ocean eyes
mourned
bruises were now only green.

On day three, we lost blue ink;
cartographers wept,
star charts were illegible,
manuscripts penned in blue ink ceased to exist.

On day four, blue left nature;
berries went dull and hyacinths died,
peacocks lost their plumage,
their rich feathers going brown.

On day five, the planets lost blue;
Saturn looked lifeless,
Venus turned yellow,
Neptune went black.

On day six, the sea went dark;
bioluminescence was no more
navigation became a lost art,
prey sat waiting in grey sludge.

On day seven, blue was gone;
the sky had taken its leave,
Earth looked lonely, lost and alone,
all anyone felt was grief.

Wander and Wonder

Our next Wander and Wonder will be on Sunday afternoon 10th August meeting at 2.30pm in the carpark of St Catherine' Park.

This is simply an opportunity for people to gather over the summer for a leisurely walk and chat together. As always we will finish the walk with refreshments.

All are welcome to join us (weather permitting).



Scan to Pay

If you would like to make a contribution to the upkeep of our churches you can do so by scanning the QR code.

sumup

Scan to Pay



Boys' Brigade Display

What a great evening of fun and laughter at the 10th Dublin Boys' Brigade Display in Castleknock Parish Centre on Tuesday 3rd June.

The gathered family and friends enjoyed seeing what all the boys got up to during the year. The boys were brilliant with their games, skits, songs and activities.

Of course it was family night so the adults got involved too, playing tunes with the boom whackers and joining in the squad races. The pass the ball game had the audience in hysterics.

The boys then received their badges and prizes.

A massive well done and thank you to Company Captain Judith and all the leaders who not only provided a great evening but also put so much work in throughout the year.



CASTLEKNOCK NATIONAL SCHOOL



June has been a very busy month. We started the month with Sports Day, despite one very heavy shower we managed to run all the races and have lots of fun.

Each class went on their School Tours during May and June and enjoyed days at Surf Dock, Emerald Park, Astro Park, Crystal Maze and Glenroe Farm. The weather was better for some of the tours than others but that did not deter the pupils enjoying every minute of them.

6th Class ran a World Food Day/School Sale with all the pupils enjoying tasting food from various countries and playing lot of fun games and activities. All the pupils had baked for homework the previous night, we have very talented bunch of children as the wide array of baked goods on the cake stall could vouch for.

Our Parents Association ran a School Disco for the pupils from 4th-6th classes and organised refreshments for our incoming Junior Infants Parents evening, the school sale and our 6th Class Graduation. Thank you to the Parents Association for all the work they put into our school throughout the year.

Our wonderful parents rose to the challenge of our DIY SOS appeal and turned up on a very wet Saturday



morning to help with DIY jobs around the school.

Unfortunately, the weather did not allow the planned outside jobs to go ahead but by the end of the day, the parents had the school sparkling as they had cleaned everything in sight. Thank you to all who gave of their time and talents to make this happen. So the outside jobs could be completed, parents turned out once again on an evening the same week and the weather obliged this time and our school is looking wonderful as we head into the school holidays.

We finished off the school year with our School End of Year Service and 6th Class Graduation events.

We hope that everyone will enjoy a great summer, we wish our 6th class all the best in their new schools. We look forward to welcoming our new Junior Infants and new pupils up the school and their families to our school when we return from the summer holidays on the 27th August.



CASTLEKNOCK NATIONAL SCHOOL



Wednesday Club

In June the Wednesday Club enjoyed a tasty lunch in the beautiful surroundings of Killeen Castle. The chat and laughter was flowing around the table and the food was enjoyed by all.

Following lunch some of the group took a leisurely stroll around the walled garden.



Ada Lawson, Diocesan MU President, along with Sophia Dillon, Hazel Speares and Margaret Jacob were privileged to represent Mothers' Union at a Community Garden Party in Áras an Uachtaráin on Wednesday 18th June. Sadly Kay Clarke, our All Ireland President, was unable to attend as she continues to recover from recent surgery. It was a fantastic occasion and President Michael D. Higgins and his wife Sabina proved to be wonderful hosts.

The group managed to speak to Sabina, the President's wife, who was very aware of Mothers' Union and the work that we do from their time living in Galway. It was a very memorable day for everyone who attended, from

enjoying drinks on the lawn, listening to different music groups entertaining the invited guests, to the delicious afternoon tea which was served in a huge marquee. The group enjoyed going for a stroll around the beautiful grounds of the Áras after the speeches and refreshments.



Tiny Tots

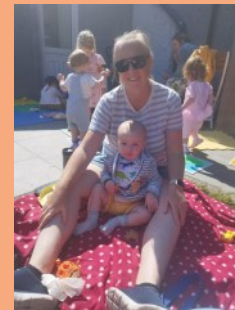
Tiny Tots has continued to grow over the 2024-2025 school year becoming a popular choice for parents and carers with their little ones.

Throughout June the Tiny tots got very creative in their craft corner including making special cards for Father's Day.

The sun was shining on the last session before the summer break this morning - we were blessed with the weather, and managed to have a Teddy Bears' Picnic outdoors in the garden of Kilbride. This was also a fundraiser for the Barnardo's children's charity. We had great fun with bubbles and songs, and also a graduation for our older children who are moving on to preschool in September.

Tiny Tots plan to re-open on the second Thursday in September - new members will be more than welcome.

A massive thank you to our wonderful group of leaders and helpers who have made Tiny Tots the place to be on a Thursday morning.



Holy Baptism

On Pentecost Sunday, 8th June, we were delighted to welcome Natalie Mia Nicholson God's church through Holy Baptism. Natalie was joined on her special day by parents Patrick and Kristina, her proud big sisters, Godmother Dorothea along with family and friends.

We pray that Natalie will grow to love being a part of our church family along with all of her family.



WIZARD OF WORDS VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED



Wizard of Words Volunteers required Urgently for D11 & D15

Description of Service:

Volunteers, aged 55 and above, are trained to assist children in DEIS schools who need a little extra help with their reading. These volunteers are paired with a child and meet with them 2 mornings per week during school hours, to practice their reading. The child benefits from having one-on-one care and attention and the volunteers really love being able to share their time, bringing generations together to help each other.

Location:

Various DEIS primary schools in Dublin 11 & Dublin 15.

Outline of Volunteers Tasks and Responsibilities:

Meet children twice a week during school hours to practice the child's reading.

Time Commitment:

- Monday to Thursday only.
2 x mornings during school hours – Approx 2.5 hours per day.

Person Specification:

No formal qualifications are required
Interested in reading and understand its value
Interested in working with children & the ability to relate to children on their own level
Maturity, patience, tolerance and tact
Consistent and dependable
Understand and value diversity

What's next?

Informal interviews will be held in our Head Office in Christchurch Square ASAP
Garda Vetting will be carried out by Barnardos in advance of starting the programme
3 x day training provided by Barnardos – Tues, Wed & Thurs, 26th, 27th & 28th August 2025 – you MUST be available to attend this training.
If you have holidays booked - they can be accommodated, but please consider future travel plans during the school term, as commitment is required.

Would you like more information?

Please contact Lisa: lisa.tobin@barnardos.ie for a volunteer application form ASAP.