

The CMC Times

September 2025

Parishes of Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla

A CHURCH OF GOD, A CHURCH FOR ALL

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

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If you wish to comment on or contribute to The CMC Times, the email address is: thecmctimes@gmail.com

Come join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cmcparish or on Instagram on @cmcparish

**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 for **October 2025**. The deadline for articles / photos will be **Monday 15th September 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,

During our tour to Australia over the summer, Janice and I were blessed to spend a few days in Queenstown in the South Island of New Zealand. Queenstown is world renowned as a ski resort and is also the birthplace of the Bungee jump. What stands out most about Queenstown is the amazing scenery of the mountain ranges and Lake Wakatipu, scenery that begins the moment you step off the plane.

Queenstown is set to the backdrop of one of the most amazing mountain ranges in the world, the "Remarkables." The Remarkables are one of only two mountain ranges in the world that run exactly from north to south, the other being the Rocky Mountains. For those familiar with the Lord of the Rings and Hobbit movies, the mountains set the scene for those movies.

There is a funny story to how this mountain range got its name. The original Ngāi Tahu inhabitants called the mountains Kawarau. However, while surveying the area around Lake Wakatipu in 1857, surveyor Alexander Garvie was struck by the mountain's unique north-south alignment. He documented this as a "truly remarkable" feature. When the new settlers arrived and read his documentation it seems his observation that the mountains were remarkable stuck and the mountains have been known as the Remarkables ever since.

I was quite amused that Garvie's observation of the mountains became their name. It really does give rise to the phrase "first impressions count". It got me thinking about our first impressions and in particular what our (or others) first impression of our churches might be. I would hope that if our churches were to be named after peoples first impressions we would be labelled with words such as "welcoming", "peaceful", "holy", "friendly." Or wouldn't it be very special if someone came in to our churches and said this place is "remarkable!"

As Rector, along with our dedicated ministry team, churchwardens and others, long to make our churches a place where people long to be and a place where people feel they belong. I know in our churches we have many "remarkable" people who make our churches a place of welcome.

In the book of Hebrews the writer urges the Christian community "let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another". Isn't that the church we long to be, a place where people are loved and encouraged, where meeting together is second nature. For me that is truly remarkable and what I pray for our churches constantly.



September sees a new beginning following the summer break with all of our organisations returning and lots of activity. I am so thankful

for all the wonderful volunteers who make this happen and for all who get involved. Also on Sunday 28th September we are holding a "Back to Church Sunday" with breakfast church in both St Mary's and in Castleknock Parish Centre. This is your opportunity to invite people along, either people who haven't been for a while or maybe those who have never been in our churches. I am challenging everyone to invite someone on that day. This is an opportunity for yourself if you haven't been for a while or invite family or friends to come and see what is happening. Church is so much better when you join us, perhaps you might just find it to be "remarkable", because the God we come to worship certainly is, in fact there really are no words to describe our God.

God bless.

Rev Colin

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 3 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion Castleknock Parish Centre

Sunday 7 **The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**

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 Thirteenth 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. Compline St. Thomas'

Wednesday 17 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion Castleknock Parish Centre

Sunday 21 **St Matthew / The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion St. Mary's

11.30 a.m. Holy Communion St. Brigid's

3.00 p.m. Harvest Thanksgiving St. Thomas'

Wednesday 24 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion Castleknock Parish Centre

Sunday 28 **Back to Church Sunday / The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

10.00 a.m. Service of the Word St. Mary's

11.30 a.m. Cornerstone Castleknock Parish Centre

3.00 p.m. Ecumenical Graveyard Service St. Mary's

Wednesday 1 Oct 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.

Back to School Sunday with Blessing of the Schoolbags

On Sunday 24th August we held special services in both Clonsilla and Castleknock ahead of the new academic year as we invited anyone returning to school to bring along their schoolbags or rucksacks for a special service of blessing.

Following on from our Holiday Bible Club, Rev Colin reminded us of our need to build strong foundations in our lives. It was great to see so many in both churches and to see the array of schoolbags and backpacks. Everyone received some special colouring pencils for their school bags.

We continue to pray for all our local schools, teachers, non-teaching staff and young people as they begin this new academic year.

Clonsilla Church Grounds Clean Up and Ecumenical Graveyard Service

We are calling on volunteers to help with a clean-up of the church grounds in St Mary's on Thursday 4th September from 6pm. We are blessed to have a small number of dedicated people who do a lot of work for our church, but we really need more people to step up. This is the opportunity to give a couple of hours, parents why not bring along your teens who would be a great help and boost for the other members.

The clean-up is ahead of our annual Ecumenical Graveyard Service with the Blessing of the Graves on Sunday 28th September at 3pm. This is an important event for the local community, and we look forward to welcoming relatives of those with loved ones buried in the graveyard.

The annual Castleknock Graveyard Service will take place on Sunday 9th November.

Wedding Congratulations

It was a wonderful day of celebration as Hannah and Aaron said "I do" in St Brigid's on Thursday 3rd July surrounded by family and friends. Hannah looked every bit the stunning bride and Aaron a very handsome groom as they exchanged their wedding vows.

We wish Hannah and Aaron God's richest blessing for many happy years to come as they begin married life.



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 below.



St Brigid's Reading Rota

Ada Lawson has volunteered to resurrect a Reading Rota for readings and prayers in St Brigid's. This will mean anyone reading will get the readings in advance of Sunday morning and our church wardens will not be having to find readers at the last minute.

While we know of a number of people who are happy to read and who will be added to the Rota, if you'd like to sign up as well please give your name to the church wardens.

Mulhuddart Harvest

We look forward to our annual Harvest Festival Service in St Thomas', Mulhuddart on Sunday 21st September at 3.00pm. We look forward to welcoming our good friend Father Damian McNeice as guest preacher this year.

Following the service, we will gather for refreshments in Tyrrelstown House and, as always, we thank the Wilkinson Family for their generous hospitality. We would ask those coming along to bring some tray bakes or cakes for the reception.

Our United Harvest Service for Castleknock and Clonsilla will be in St Mary's, Clonsilla on Sunday 5th October at 10am.

Holy Baptism

Over the summer we were delighted to welcome four children into God's church through Holy Baptism. In July we welcomed Jordan and his family for his special day. The family have been living overseas for the past few years but wanted Jordan to be baptised in Castleknock surrounded by family and friends.

On Sunday 10th August, we welcomed Alison along with family and friends for her baptism in Castleknock. This was another joyous celebration as Alison was welcomed into God's church.

On 24th August, Ceola was baptised in Clonsilla surrounded by a large group of family and friends to support her as her parents and Godparents made the Baptism vows on her behalf. On the same day we welcomed Danny and his family for Holy Baptism in Castleknock making it truly a day of celebration.

We continue to pray for Jordan, Alison, Ceola and Danny and their families as each child begins their own journey of faith and we look forward to welcoming them when they come along to church.



Christmas Tree Festival and Arts and Crafts Fair

It was great to see so many show up for our planning meeting to consider our plans for our Christmas fundraiser. Following the meeting we have decided to hold a Christmas Tree Festival in St Brigid's, Castleknock from Friday 28th November – Sunday 30th November alongside our Arts and Craft Fair in the Parish Centre. Our aim is to create a community celebration of Christmas and everything good about our local community. Donations from the Festival will go towards Parish funds.

The Festival, which you could in some ways compare to a flower festival, seeks to tell the story of Christmas and the story of our local community through the medium of Christmas trees (or creations that resemble Christmas Trees). Each tree will be uniquely made or decorated to tell its part in the story.

Visitors will journey through the Christmas story as told by decorated trees as well as those that bring them to the very heart of our local community. The Festival will conclude with a Christmas Songs of Praise for the whole community on Sunday afternoon at 4.00pm.

On the Saturday we will be holding our annual Arts and Craft Fair in the Parish Centre with a variety of stalls as well as art for sale. There will be the usual refreshments, cake and plant stalls and Santa's Grotto.

There will be other activities throughout the weekend and we will need everyone to get on board to help set up, steward, serve refreshments and take down. There will be sign up rotas closer to the time. This will be a major event not just for our churches but also for the local community and we look forward to everyone giving their support. There will be a further planning meeting towards the end of September.

Monthly Prayer Gathering

Our Monthly Prayer Gatherings start back following the summer break on Monday 15th September at 7.30pm in the Maharry Room, Castleknock Parish Centre. Meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month the Prayer Gathering gives the opportunity for quiet reflection as we pray for our church, community, world and those in need. The Prayer Gathering takes a different format each month and is the bedrock of our church. All are welcome to join us.



We want to hear from you!

If you have any parish or community news, which you think would be of interest to the readers of The CMC Times, please send it to us.

Pictures also welcome by email (high resolution please). All submissions will be considered for inclusion. Contact details are on page 2. Thank you!





**CASTLEKNOCK AND MULHUDDART WITH CLONSILLA
CHURCH OF IRELAND**

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

WITH ARTS AND CRAFT FAIR

ST BRIGID'S CASTLEKNOCK 28TH - 30TH NOVEMBER 2025

OFFICIAL OPENING FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 6PM

CLOSING CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 4PM

ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR SATURDAY 29TH 12NOON - 3PM

CASTLEKNOCK PARISH CENTRE

LOCAL ART TO VIEW AND BUY

CRAFT STALLS

CAKES

SANTS'S GROTTTO

REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLE AND MORE

BREAKFAST CHURCH FOR BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

We will be holding special “Back to Church Sunday” services on 28th September as an opportunity to invite either former parishioners or newcomers to come along and experience our church family. These services will form part of our commitment to the Diocesan Mission Sub-Committee’s commitment to develop a mission plan for the Diocese of Dublin and Glendalough and to pray for growth in our Diocese. Thanks to the Sub-Committee we have received a small grant to provide a breakfast for the services.

There will be a buffet type breakfast with sausage baps, etc. in Clonsilla from 9.30am before the service starting at 10am.

The Castleknock service will take place in Castleknock Parish Centre with a cooked breakfast from 11am before the service begins in the hall at 11.30am.

Please invite family and friends to join us for these special services as we continue to seek to grow as a church family.

With numbers having dropped in our churches especially since the beginning of this year we really need to take opportunities to encourage people to either get back involved or to come for the first time. Many people who drift away from church simply need someone to encourage them to come back and this is where you can play your part.

If you are reading this and you haven’t come to church for a while, for whatever reason, we would love you to come along and hopefully you will find a warm welcome.

Together we can make this a really special day and something to build on as we look to grow as a church family and ensure strong foundations for the years to come.



WHO WILL YOU
INVITE?
SEPTEMBER 28

KINGDOM BUILDERS



Our Holiday Bible Club, "Kingdom Builders", took place in Castleknock Parish Centre from 20th – 22nd August. Kingdom Builders was themed on Lego and Minecraft with the hall decorated in the theme of the popular games. Each evening looked at a different aspect of building God's Kingdom and the children had great fun with the games, crafts, Bible stories and memory verse.

The songs had us up on our feet and moving as we combined some of our favourite worship songs with some crazy dances. The games were all themed on building strong foundations and helped to use up plenty of energy.

On the first night our theme was God's Creation as we learnt about how God created the greatest kingdom of all. Rev Colin led our talk as we looked at the Minecraft game modes and how they reflected on how God made the world. In our crafts we made avatars reminding us that we are made in God's image and Minecraft style cubes were decorated to represent God's created world. Everyone then wrote a prayer brick to thank God for something that is special to them.

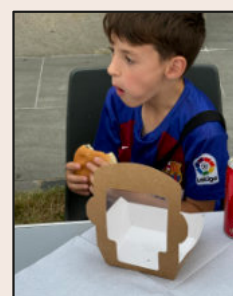
On night two, Olive taught us about Solomon building the temple and how the people had to listen to God to build a firm foundation. The children are loving learning our memory verse and we all used up lots of energy with our songs and games.

We made Minecraft Rice Krispie blocks, created churches from Lego and played a fun version of a Beetle Drive with our Temple Drive.

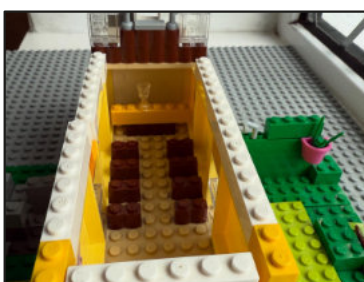


On Friday evening we ended the week with a family evening and BBQ. The grown-ups were great sport in taking part in our very active songs and we even managed to teach them our memory verse. We looked at the story of the wise and foolish builders and how we can build our lives on strong foundations. We then gathered in the garden of Kilbride for Burgers and Hot Dogs.

A massive thank you to all the children who came along during the week. They were all absolutely brilliant in taking part in all the activities and they all seemed to have a great time. Thanks to our young leaders Alvah and Ellie and our leaders Rev Colin, Janice, Judith, Olive, Niamh and Tracy along with Ada and Gladys who looked after our refreshments (and got involved with the activities too). We look forward to next year's Club!



KINGDOM BUILDERS



ORGANISATIONS NEWS

Wednesday Club

WEDNESDAY
CLUB

Members of the Wednesday Club enjoyed lunch out at the Castleknock Hotel on Wednesday 20th August. It was lovely to see so many gathered and as always the conversation was flowing around the dinner tables as everyone enjoyed a catch up.

Dates for the next few months are:

- On Thursday 25th September we are getting the 11am train from Castleknock to **Dun Laoghaire** for lunch and either sit and people watch or go for a stroll.
- Wednesday 29th October - A **visit to Dublin Courts** is planned with further details to follow.
- Wednesday 3rd December - **Christmas Lunch** in the Gourmet Food Parlour, Dunshaughlin. €40 for three course plus tea or coffee. Monies to be paid by 21st November to Valerie Jameson.



Tiny Tots

We look forward to Tiny Tots resuming on Thursday 11th September in Castleknock Parish Centre from 10am - 11.30am.

Tiny Tots is a great place for little ones along with their parents or carers to meet together for fun and friendship. We have a wonderful group of leaders who have made Tiny Tots a very popular place to bring little ones.

Wander and Wonder

On Sunday 10th August we enjoyed the beautiful weather for our Wander and Wonder in St Catherine's Park, Lucan. It was great to go for a dander and enjoy catching up over the usually quieter summer months. Following the walk we all enjoyed more chat over a coffee as we sat in the sunshine.



Youth Group

Youth Group starts back on Sunday 21st September at 6pm in Castleknock Parish Centre with a special evening of pizza and prayer. Linking in with the Diocesan Mission Sub-Committee's call for prayer we will have activities based around prayer before enjoying pizza. Youth Group meets on the third Sunday of each month and is open to all of secondary school age.

We can't wait to get our young people back together after the summer break and hope to see some new faces as well.

On Saturday 4th October we are planning to go to the Diocesan Youth Big Day Out in Taney, please put it in the diary!



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity Mission Trip 2026

We are delighted to have a team formed to travel to Cambodia in July 2026 to work along with Habitat for Humanity to provide a safe home for a vulnerable family. It is important that we continue to build our relationship with Habitat in Cambodia and we are delighted to have a mix of some of those who travelled in 2024 and some new faces.

The team will hold their first meeting on Monday 15th September at 8.15pm in Castleknock Parish Centre. This will be an opportunity for the team to get to know each

other and to plan for the trip as well as thinking of fundraising ideas.

If anyone is unable to travel but would like to financially support those who are, please speak to Rev Colin or Olive who is co-leading the team this time. This generosity is a wonderful way to show support and also means so much as it enables us to encourage people to travel who may find the overall cost daunting.

There are still limited places remaining on the team, if you are interested, please let us know as soon as possible.



Exciting Volunteering Opportunity with Habitat for Humanity

On Saturday 6th September, we are bringing a team of people to help get ReStore Glasnevin ready for opening from 9.30am - 4pm. This will involve practical work from painting, to cleaning, to moving items, etc., there will be a job for everyone.

Please speak to Rev Colin if you can get involved as we continue to seek to serve others.

This is the information we have been sent by Habitat for Humanity:

*"We are looking forward to hosting the group from Castleknock & Mulhuddart with Clonsilla for a ReStore Volunteer Day on **Saturday 6th September**. This will be at ReStore Glasnevin, Unit 5, Slaney Road, Tolkapark, Dublin 11, D11 T266. Tasks on the day will be to help*

get the store ready for opening later in the summer and could include painting, basic DIY and will give volunteers the

opportunity to hear more about the impact of Habitat ReStore. It would be helpful if you could confirm exact numbers.

Please ensure volunteers wear suitable footwear and comfortable clothing that they don't mind getting dirty! Gloves and any protective equipment required will be provided.

Please also ensure the individuals have carefully read the Health and Safety information which you will find [here](#).

*Your group should arrive to start work **at ReStore Dublin for 9.30am**. Following a short Health & Safety briefing, tasks will be allocated. You can expect a tea/coffee break at some point during the morning and afternoon. Please ask volunteers to bring a packed lunch or there are shops close by or you may wish to bring in food for the group. Tea and coffee will be provided. **The day will finish at approx. 4pm.***

In advance of volunteering, please confirm exact numbers attending. We would also ask that all volunteers in your group complete an [Online Personal Information Sheet](#) so that supervising staff are aware of any medical conditions. Please share this link with the volunteers and ask that they complete at least 24 hours beforehand."



Castleknock Girls' Brigade

We are looking forward to welcoming back our girls after the summer break. We hope to welcome new members as well, to this end we are having an Open Morning on Saturday 20th September for girls aged 3 - 8 years to come along and try out Girls' Brigade.

Our Tiny Tots and Explorers (3 - 8 year olds) meet on Saturday mornings in the Parish Centre at 10.00 am. Whilst our Juniors and Seniors (age 9 - 13 years) meet from 7.00 pm and our Brigaders (age 14 - 17 years) meet from 8.00 pm on Wednesday evenings in the Parish Centre and will start back on Wednesday 17th September.

We have an exciting year planned with lots of activities for the girls including dancing, baking, crafts, scripture, games, badgework, singing, drama, STEAM and a few more surprises.

New members in all sections are very welcome. So if you know any girls (age 3 – 8 years) that would like to come along to our Open Morning or any girls (age 9+ years) who would like to join Castleknock Girls' Brigade, please contact Olive at 087 2451310 or email 42ndcocastleknock@girlsbrigadeirl.ie to sign up for a trial period.



Sunday Club

We look forward to Sunday Club starting back in both Castleknock and Clonsilla in September. Sunday Club takes place during church on the first three Sundays of each month (excluding Bank Holiday's) with the children leaving church during the service and returning at the end. Sunday Club is open to all primary school aged children.

For September Rev Colin has produced some new resources to help the children explore the Heroes of the Bible. There will be stories, crafts and songs which we are sure the children will enjoy.

Sunday Club is a really important ministry in our church as it encourages young families to come along and provides a fun environment for our children to grow in their faith. We would love to see numbers grow in both our Sunday Clubs as the children love to make new friends and meet together.

Please encourage young families to get involved in Sunday Club. If anyone would be interesting in helping out on a Rota basis, please speak to any of the leaders or Rev Colin.

At the time of writing, there is a meeting planned for leaders and anyone who would like to get involved in helping on Monday 1st September at 7.30pm in Castleknock Parish Centre.



DGYC PRESENTS

BIG DAY OUT & INTERN COMMISSIONING SERVICE

DATE: 4th October 2025

VENUE: Taney Parish, Dundrum

TIME: 4pm - 8:30pm
(7pm Service)

Activites
Live Music
Inflatatbles
BBQ
Games &
Youth Service

www.dgyc.org

HEROES **OF THE** **BIBLE**

**CLONSILLA SUNDAY CLUB
SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2025**

SEPTEMBER

**SUNDAY 7TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 14TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 21ST SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 28TH BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY
BREAKFAST CHURCH**

OCTOBER

**SUNDAY 5TH UNITED HARVEST SERVICE IN CLONSILLA
SUNDAY 12TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 19TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 26TH ALL AGE SERVICE**

NOVEMBER

**2ND SUNDAY CLUB
9TH SUNDAY CLUB
16TH SUNDAY CLUB
23RD ALL AGE SERVICE
30TH UNITED SERVICE IN CLONSILLA**

HEROES **OF THE** **BIBLE**

**CASTLEKNOCK SUNDAY CLUB
SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2025**

SEPTEMBER

**SUNDAY 7TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 14TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 21ST SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 28TH BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY
BREAKFAST CHURCH IN PARISH CENTRE**

OCTOBER

**SUNDAY 5TH UNITED HARVEST SERVICE IN CLONSILLA
SUNDAY 12TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 19TH SUNDAY CLUB
SUNDAY 26TH CORNERSTONE**

NOVEMBER

**2ND SUNDAY CLUB
9TH SUNDAY CLUB
16TH SUNDAY CLUB
23RD CORNERSTONE
30TH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL SERVICE 3PM**



CLO SILLA

HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Sat 13th & Sun 14th Sept. 2025

Shackleton's Proms: Blanchardstown
Brass Band & Craobh Slí Dhála.

Talks on: Introduction to Beekeeping,
Life at Dublin Zoo, Restoration of
Shackleton's Gardens and
Irish Conversation for All

Tours of: The Deep Sinking,
St Mary's Church, St Mochta's Church
and Luttrellstown Glen & Folly.

Plus: Yoga & Wellness,
Barge Trips on the Royal Canal,
and Stand up Paddleboarding.

See clonsillaheritage.ie for details



Clonsilla & Porterstown
Heritage Society (CPHS)

WITH SUPPORT FROM
Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

