

The CMC Times

October 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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Olive Good (087 2451310)

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Blessing Obioha

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

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(Closed Wednesdays)

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 at www.facebook.com/cmcp parish or on Instagram on @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 for **November 2025**. The deadline for articles / photos will be **Wednesday 15th October 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,

There has been a lot of debate lately over the right to free speech and how far that right allows anyone, whether in the public eye or not, to say whatever they like. Following the tragic shooting of the American political activist Charlie Kirk and the subsequent silencing of some who have criticised what Kirk stood for, that debate has come to the forefront of debate across the world.

With the rise of extremism both to the left and right of the political sphere and the increasing culture of public figures being “cancelled” for views expressed along with people losing jobs and even being arrested for social media posts, the right to free speech is currently one of the hottest topics around.

Free speech, of course, can be seen as the cornerstone of democracy, allowing us to share ideas, discuss issues, and participate in the political process through voting and holding their representatives accountable. It is (often rightly) argued that free speech is essential for a functioning democracy and a just society because it allows for the free exchange of ideas, which is crucial for informed decision-making, social progress, and holding power accountable. It acts as a defence against government overreach and tyranny. As the old saying goes “sticks and stones can break your bones, but words can never hurt you...” However, this is often added to with the disclaimer “unless you believe them, then, they can destroy you.”

So is it true that we should be able to say anything we want without consequence?

Perhaps rather than trying to answer that question with a definitive yes or no, we should as Christians examine our motives for the things we say. In this online age often words typed behind a screen are deliberately provocative whether it be the media trying to generate views or individuals trying to generate likes. It’s often viewed as harmless “click-bait” aimed at grabbing the reader’s attention, or promoting a certain cause. Often politicians

throw in controversial lines to win votes or to blot the name of the opposition. All done in the name of political point scoring.

The Bible warns us of the danger of our words. The Message translation of James chapter 3 tells us:

“A word out of your mouth may seem of no account, but it can accomplish nearly anything - or destroy it!

A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. By our speech we can ruin the world, turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell.

This is scary: You can tame a tiger,

but you can't tame a tongue - it's never been done. The tongue runs wild, a wanton killer.”

While our words can do so much good in sharing information, passing on good news, encouraging others we must also be aware of the damage our words can do. In our primary and secondary schools a new policy has been launched to combat bullying. The policy is simply named As Gaeilge “Bí Cineálta” (Be Kind).

Wouldn’t our world be a much better place if rather than arguing about the right for “free speech” that we used our words to be kind to one another, to encourage one another and build each other up. As we read in Ephesians 4:32: “Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” Wouldn’t that make our world a better place?

God bless.

Rev Colin

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

Wednesday 1 Oct	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 5	The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	United Harvest Thanksgiving Service	St. Mary's
Wednesday 8	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 12	The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St. Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	St. Brigid's
3.00 p.m.	Celebration of Pets Service	Castleknock Parish Centre
Wednesday 15	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 19	The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	
10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St. Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	St. Brigid's
Wednesday 22	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 26	The Fifth Sunday before Advent	
10.00 a.m.	United Service of the Word with Baptism	St. Mary's
8.00 p.m.	The Litany	St. Thomas'
Wednesday 29	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
Sunday 2 Nov	The Fourth Sunday before Advent	
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.

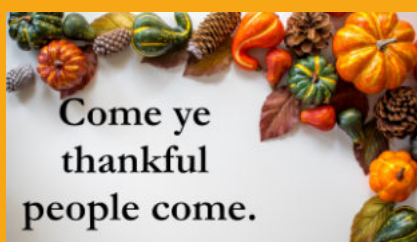
Live streaming will continue from St. Brigid's Church on Sundays at 11.30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

United Harvest Service Clonsilla

We will hold our United Harvest Festival Service in St Mary's, Clonsilla on Sunday 5th October at 10am. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together across our churches to give thanks to God for the gift of the Harvest, there will be refreshments following the service. Anyone who would like to help with decorating the church please come along to St Mary's on Saturday 4th October from 10am. All help plus donations of greenery, fruit and veg or flowers are greatly appreciated.

We will be collecting donations of non-perishable food items for the Food bank as our Harvest Appeal. If you'd like to donate please bring them along on the day.



Monthly Prayer Gathering

Our Monthly Prayer Gatherings meets on Monday 20th October at 7.30pm in St Mary's Clonsilla. We will be taking some quiet time out in prayer and worship together.

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.



Celebration of Pets Service

Our annual Celebration of Pets Service takes place on Sunday 12th October at 3pm in Castleknock Parish Centre. All animals and animal lovers are welcome on the day and we are hoping to see a variety of your beloved pets. Alternatively you can bring along a photo of your pet and we will also remember your much loved pets who have passed away.



Even if you don't have a pet, you are welcome to join us to enjoy the fun.

There will be the opportunity for a prayer of blessing for your pet at the service.

Home Group Bible Study

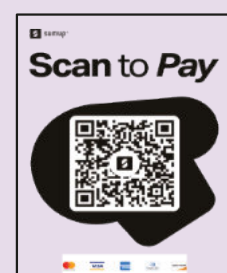
We begin an exciting new Bible Study Series for our Home Group as we look at the book of Jonah and ask what it means to embrace God's call. We will meet over four consecutive Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in the Rectory starting on the 9th October.

The Home Group is a great opportunity to come together with others to study the Bible in a relaxed way and to grow in our faith together.

Why not come along and give it a try.

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.



CASTLEKNOCK AND
MULHUDDART WITH
CLONSILLA

CELEBRATION OF PETS SERVICE

SUNDAY 12TH OCTOBER 3PM

CASTLEKNOCK CHURCH OF
IRELAND PARISH CENTRE,
MAIN STREET CASTLEKNOCK

ALL ANIMALS WELCOME
ALTERNATIVELY BRING A PHOTO OF YOUR PET
OR A LOVED PET THAT HAS PASSED



Craft Corner

Welcome back to our monthly get-together where we try out various crafts. At time of going to press we will have enjoyed a decoupage morning – photos will be in next month's edition. Our monthly sessions showcase a craft with materials supplied and guidance given. A friendly cuppa is always guaranteed. All levels of crafters/non-crafters welcome! We have an exciting program for 2025/26.

Dates for your diaries: 20th October & 24th November.



Feel free to contact us via the Parish Office if you need any more information.

Mothers' Union

The first meeting for Mothers' Union after the summer break was on Monday 1st September. Valerie Twomey, Diocesan Secretary of MU, gave a very interesting talk about the "**The Glitz and Glamour from Russborough House**". We have also started back at 'Knit & Natter', making blankets, angel pockets and other items for the hospitals. Our next meeting will be on Monday 6th October, when we will be doing a spot of gardening. All are welcome.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

A large blue whale is swimming towards the right. The background is a deep blue with white bubbles and some coral at the bottom right.

HOME GROUP BIBLE STUDY

JONAH

EMBRACING GOD'S CALL

A FOUR WEEK STUDY ON THE BOOK OF JONAH
MEETING IN THE RECTORY, 7.30PM
9TH, 16TH, 23RD AND 30TH OCTOBER

ALL WELCOME!

Christmas Tree Festival and Arts and Crafts Fair

We will hold the next planning meeting for the Christmas Tree Festival and Arts and Craft Fair on Monday 13th October in the Maharry Room at 7.00pm.

If you are connected to a local school, community group or business and would like to create a tree to represent your part in our local community please speak to Ada Lawson or Sandra Connolly or email cmcchristmastreefestival@gmail.com for further information.

The Festival will open on Friday 28th November. Visitors to the festival 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.

Former Rector to retire as Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross

Our former Rector, Bishop Paul Colton, announced recently that he intends to retire as Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross. His last public Service as Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross will be on Saturday 18th April 2026 when he will lay down his crozier in Saint Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork.

He was ordained a deacon in 1984 and a priest in 1985 and spent his early ministry in the Diocese of Connor. He was appointed incumbent of these parishes in 1990 and served here until his consecration as Bishop in March 1999.

We wish Paul every blessing on his retirement and thank him for his Christian ministry in these parishes and in all aspects of his 42 years of ministry.

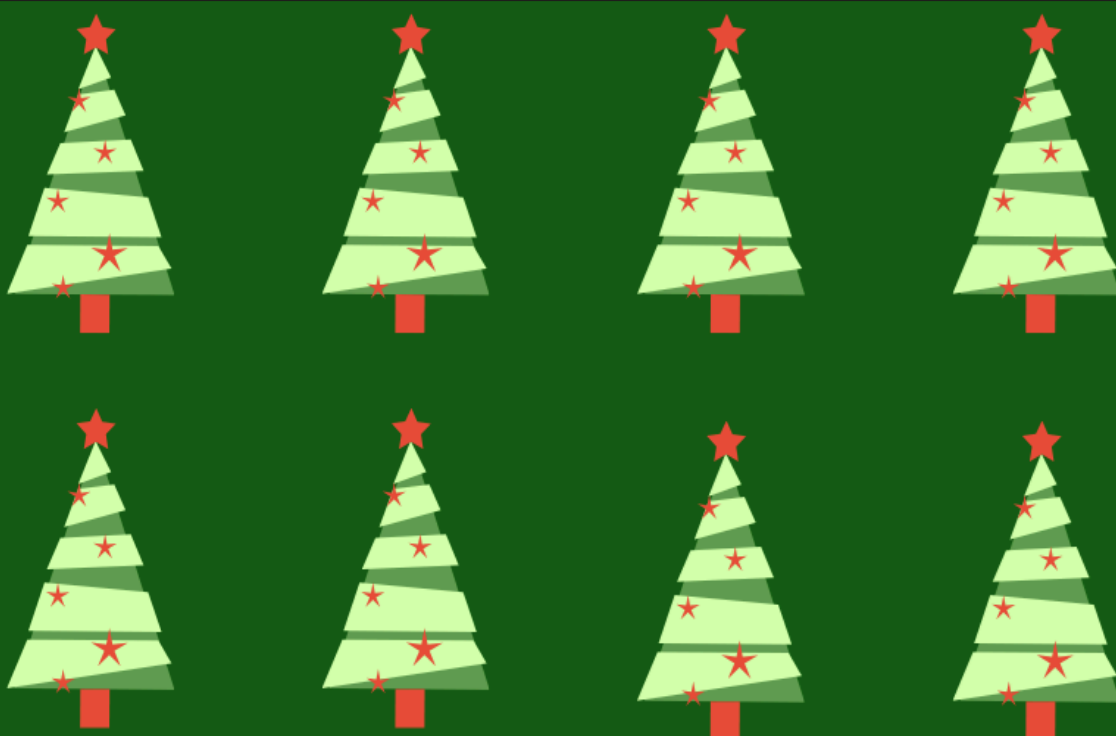


We want to hear from you!

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

**DECORATE A TREE TO REPRESENT
YOUR PART IN OUR COMMUNITY**

- **Trees can be completely hand crafted or you can decorate a real or artificial tree.**
- **Trees will be mounted on boards approximately 3ft from the ground and should be ideally no more than 1 metre wide.**
- **All lights must be LED (battery operated only).**
- **Trees are to be brought to the church from Tuesday 25th until Thursday 27th November**
- **Each tree will be numbered and credited to the organisation involved**

BREAKFAST CHURCH FOR BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Sunday 28th September marked “Back to Church Sunday” with Breakfast Church Services in both Clonsilla and Castleknock.

It was great to hear the chat over breakfast before joining in worship together. In Clonsilla, Rev Colin asked that congregation what church meant to them and in Castleknock, Femi and Olive shared what being part of church means to them.

Thank you to all who prepared breakfast in both churches and to all who came along to make it such a special morning. Thanks also to the Diocesan Mission Sub-Committee who provided us with a grant for the breakfast as part of our Diocesan mission planning.



HARVEST IN MULHUDDART

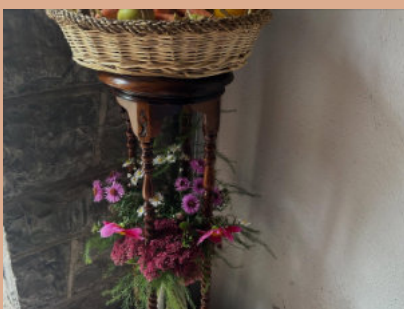
Mulhuddart Harvest

On Sunday 21st September we held our Harvest Festival Service in St Thomas', Mulhuddart and it was great to see the church well filled. The church was beautifully decorated as we gave thanks to God for the gift of the harvest. We were delighted to welcome our good friend Father Damien McNeice who shared a message of hope reminding us of God's provision.

Our Harvest collection of non-perishable food items for the Food bank was well supported with the gifts being brought forward by the children present during the offertory hymn.

Following the service we had refreshments in Tyrellstown House thanks to the kind hospitality of the Wilkinson family.

Thank you to all who decorated the church so beautifully for the service and to Meryl for providing us with musical accompaniment to sing the wonderful harvest hymns.



ORGANISATIONS NEWS

Youth Group

Youth Group returned following the summer break in September with games, prayer and pizza.



In conjunction with the Diocesan Sub-committee for Mission Prayer Movement 2025, we had a number of prayer stations to help us focus on prayer for ourselves and others.

We finished the evening by enjoying pizza! It was great to have our young people back with us and we hope more will join us in the coming months.

On Saturday 4th October we are planning to go to the Diocesan Youth Big Day Out in Taney. Please let Rev Colin know by Wednesday 1st October if your young people will be joining us as we will be arranging lifts through the leaders.

Our monthly meeting will be on Sunday 19th October at 6pm in Castleknock Parish Centre.

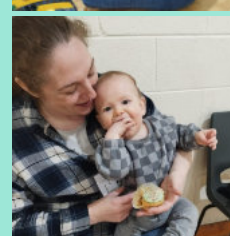
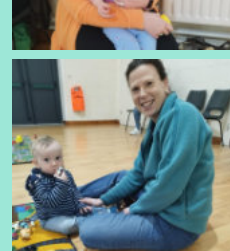
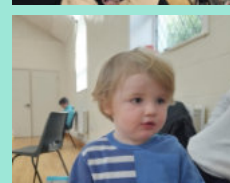
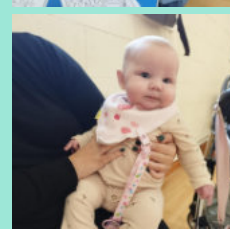
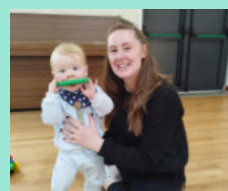


Tiny Tots

Returning after the summer break, Tiny Tots continues to flourish and grow with a number of new little ones and their parents or carers joining some regulars from last year. It is great to see the hall filled each Thursday morning with the sound of little voices and fun.

In September Tiny Tots held a fundraising coffee morning raising funds for the 'Big Coffee Morning for Hospice'. Many thanks to our leaders for their delicious bakes, and to our members for their generous support. Two former Tiny Tots came along to help out too!

It's great to see Tiny Tots continue to grow and serve our local community.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity Mission Trip 2026

Fourteen people are now fully signed up for our mission trip to Cambodia in 2026 in partnership with Habitat for Humanity in Ireland and Cambodia. The team is a great mix of people who travelled in 2024 and new faces, a

combination of parishioners and friends of parishioners.

Please keep the team in your prayers as they begin preparations for travelling to Cambodia at the start of July 2026.



Habitat for Humanity Restore Glasnevin

On Saturday 6th September we took a team of 19 volunteers to spend the day at Restore Glasnevin with Habitat for Humanity Ireland. The team helped out with painting, cleaning, repairs and building shelves in preparation for the opening of the new store. Thanks to all who volunteered on the day and to Colette and Stephen from ReStore who looked after us on the day.



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 and protecting the planet. There are now seven ReStores across Ireland in Lisburn, Drogheda, Belfast, Ballymena, Lisnagelvin, Newry and Newtownards. Now we welcome ReStore to Dublin as they plan to open in October.

Rev Colin will represent the parish at the official opening on Thursday 23rd October and we are delighted to hear that some people have already signed up to volunteer in ReStore. Others have already donated household items, so if you are upgrading furniture, a kitchen or clearing out please think of donating items to ReStore.

You can find out more at www.habitatireland.org/joinus/restore.



BUY A BRICK RETURNS

As so many people had been asking team members “when can I buy a brick?” we have decided to re-run the hugely successful fundraiser from Cambodia 2024.

Each brick purchased goes fully towards the cost of building homes for vulnerable families. Bricks are €20 each and you can support by buying as many as you might like. The bricks have begun to build up in our Cambodia House which currently sits in Castleknock Parish Centre. 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 - [https://](https://habitatireland.enthuse.com/cf/cmc-cambodia2026)

habitatireland.enthuse.com/cf/cmc-cambodia2026.

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.

We know that many of you would have liked to join the team but are unable to do so for numerous reasons or have asked about supporting the team financially. If anyone would like to make a larger donation to perhaps support a team member cover the cost, please speak to Rev Colin or Olive Good.

Remember you don't have to lift a hammer to be part of the mission project!

**BUY A BRICK
CAMBODIA 2026
€20 per brick**

Number of Brick(s) _____

Name(s) on brick(s) _____

**Cash donations or donate online
<https://habitatireland.enthuse.com/cf/cmc-cambodia2026>**

**All monies raised
will go towards the
building of homes**



Castleknock National School

We welcomed our new Junior Infants and a number of new pupils to classes up the school at the end of August along with our pupils from last year.

We also welcomed Ms Catherine Vance to our staff as a new Support Teacher and welcomed back Ms Suzanne O'Brien-O'Carroll to the staff after her secondment to the Department. Congratulations to Ms McMurdock on her appointment as Principal of Hewetson National School in Clane, their gain is our loss as she leaves us in the middle of September.

The children have all settled in well and are enjoying a wide range of class activities. We have commenced our after school activities schedule which includes Technology, Multi-Sport, Art, Homework Club, Chess, Lego, Cross Stitching over Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, thank you to the teachers for organising these.

Emma Fitzsimons (one of our school Mums) has been busy working on the school mural over the summer holidays and has produced a magnificent mural of St Brigid's Church to add to our panels of the school crest and the tree with all the children's hand prints. Well done and thank you Emma.



Clonsilla Graveyard Service

The sun was shining on the afternoon of Sunday 28th September as we welcomed visitors from our local community and further afield to the Graveyard Service in St Mary's, Clonsilla.

The Graveyard was filled with families who had gathered to remember loved ones. Rev Colin reflected upon the varying stages of grief and how we even in the hardest times can find hope in God's eternal love.

We were joined by Father Francis who took part in the service and then blessed the graves. From the collection €1600 was raised, following expenses, and this will be split between St Francis Hospice and the upkeep of the graveyard.

Thank you to our parishioners who volunteered to ensure the service ran smoothly.

The Graveyard Service in Castleknock will be on Sunday 9th November at 3pm.





Now Enrolling

Castleknock National School are opening applications for the 2026 - 27 school year on 6 October 2025.

Details of the admissions policy and application form can be found on the website www.castleknocknationalschool.ie

Application Forms should be returned to the school no later than

Friday 31st October 2025.



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

Sun 19th - 12:00pm to 4:00pm

