

The CMC Times

November 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.

Parish Contacts:

Rector: Rev. Colin McConaghie 087 3466140

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

Parish Readers: Femi Adoyebi &
Blessing Obioha

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

Parish Administrator: Jenny McGrath

Parish Office:

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

01 820 0040 cmcparishoffice@gmail.com

Hours: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. weekdays
(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 a double issue for **December 2025/January 2026**. The deadline for articles / photos will be **Friday 14th November 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,

As you read these notes the clock will have already fallen back and the nights most certainly closing in. For many people, the dark evenings are a cause of both challenge and anxiety. The darkness can lead to some people feeling more down than usual and for many of our more senior parishioners the thought of driving to meetings on dark evenings can be off-putting, meaning they miss that personal interaction.

I would encourage everyone to keep an eye out for each other over these months. Perhaps you could offer a lift if you're coming along to Mothers' Union, Prayer Gathering or Bible Study to someone who you know would like to attend but doesn't like driving in the evenings. Also, rather than just drop them home at the door why not stay for a while for a chat and a cuppa, the feeling of loneliness is arguably the most pressing concern of our generation.

There is only one combat to darkness, light. Your smile, your offer of a lift or just your company can bring that light into the lives of others.

We as a Parish continue to seek to bring light to the lives of not only our parishioners but to our wider community. One way of doing this will be through our Christmas Tree Festival, which is a rather unique way of lighting up the darkness. Local schools, community groups, businesses along with church groups are preparing Christmas tree creations of various shapes and sizes. Some will be decorated trees while others will be bespoke one off tree like creations. When they come together at the end of November our church in Castleknock will be alight with God's love through the Christmas Story and God's love for our local community. This will truly be an opportunity to bring light into the darkness of the winter days.

This is a first for our group of churches and is a major undertaking so let's make it a real church family occasion by all working together to light up Castleknock and beyond. There will be varying opportunities to volunteer through creating trees, stewarding, setting up and taking

down, providing refreshments, etc. This is a Festival for all of our churches, so please don't leave it to others, play your part, you'll enjoy the sense of community.

We will seek to bring light of course in other ways. On Wednesday 5th November we hold our annual Service for Healing and Remembrance. This is an opportunity to not only remember loved ones who have died but to receive prayer for healing for yourself or others. This is a service of real hope, bringing light to what may seem like the darkest of times. In December our Advent Soup and Services offer a time of reflection and fellowship around a delicious warm bowl of soup. Our weekly services with Sunday Clubs bring a sense of God's presence within us as His Holy Spirit lights up our lives. Our Monthly Prayer Gathering shines like a beacon of hope in a world so desperately in need of the light of Christ. Our many parish organisations are other great ways of bringing the light of God in more informal ways.

Matthew 5: 16 tells us *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."* I am so often blessed by the love of God that shines through so many of our parishioners through kindness, support, words of encouragement and commitment to building God's Kingdom. It is that light that makes our churches a place of welcome and a place of sanctuary.

Let's be people of light, let's shine brightly and may that love for God, one another and our community bring hope in the darkest nights.

God bless.

Rev Colin

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

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

Wednesday 5

10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
7.30 p.m.	Service of Healing and Remembrance	St. Mary's

Sunday 9

The Third Sunday before Advent / Remembrance Sunday

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. Brigid's

Wednesday 12

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
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Sunday 16

The Second Sunday before Advent

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

Wednesday 19

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
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Sunday 23

The Kingship of Christ

10.00 a.m.	Service of the Word	St. Mary's
11.30 a.m.	Cornerstone with GB / BB Enrolment	St. Brigid's
8.00 p.m.	Holy Communion	St. Thomas'

Wednesday 26

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	Castleknock Parish Centre
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Sunday 30

The First Sunday of Advent

10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	St. Mary's
3.00 p.m.	Festival Closing Carol Service	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

Advent Soup and Service

Our Advent Soup and Service series begins on Tuesday 2nd December and will run for 3 weeks. Meeting in St Mary's, Clonsilla at 12.30pm there will be short reflective service followed by a soup lunch. Donations for the lunch will go toward the Cambodia Mission with Habitat for Humanity.

Service for Healing and Remembrance

Our annual Service for Healing and Remembrance will be held in St Mary's, Clonsilla on Wednesday 5th November at 7.30pm. This reflective service offers a space to seek healing prayer for yourself or others and to remember loved ones who have died.

Castleknock Graveyard Service

The annual Ecumenical Graveyard Service in Castleknock will be on Sunday 9th November at 3pm. This is a very important event for the wider community as we welcome friends from the Roman Catholic church for the Blessing of the Graves. Please spread the word to ensure people are aware of the date.

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.



ADVENT SOUP AND SERVICE



St. Mary's, Clonsilla
Tuesday's at 12.30 pm
From 2nd - 16th December
Donations in aid of the Cambodia
Mission with Habitat for Humanity
ALL WELCOME

Monthly Prayer Gathering

Our Monthly Prayer Gathering meets next on Monday 17th November 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.



Select Vestry of Castleknock and Mulhuddart

Vacancy - Cleaner

The Select Vestry of Castleknock and Mulhuddart wish to recruit a part-time Cleaner for Castleknock Parish Centre and St. Brigid's Church, Castleknock.

Hours: Monday - Friday 9.00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Rate of Pay: €14.15 gross per hour.

The successful candidate will be required to provide an efficient and comprehensive cleaning service to the Parish to ensure the Parish Centre and church are clean, tidy and in an orderly condition at all times and will be responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and hygiene standards, ensuring a pleasant and welcoming environment for all.

The ideal candidate will -

- be reliable and punctual with a strong work ethic.
- have previous cleaning experience (desirable).
- have an awareness of health and safety standards.
- have an ability to work independently.

To apply for this position, please post a cover letter and CV, marked "**Private and Confidential, Addressee only**" to the:

Hon. Secretary, Select Vestry of Castleknock and Mulhuddart,
Castleknock Parish Centre, Main Street, Castleknock, Dublin 15, D15 DK54,
or
email a cover letter and CV to cmcparish@gmail.com.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday 12th of November 2025.

Mothers' Union

On Monday October 6th, Mothers' Union had 'An Evening of Gardening'. There was a demonstration on how to make a terrarium, followed by hands-on gardening. Ada was planning for the spring and had us planting muscari and tete-a-tete daffodil bulbs. Looking forward to seeing the photos when they are all in bloom. Also that evening, we received donations for a number of Women's Refugees, thank you all. Our next monthly meeting is our AGM, which will take place on Monday, 3rd November 2025 at 8pm in Castleknock Parish Centre. We will be collecting for the Jigsaw Centre, Darndale at that meeting. All are welcome.



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!



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 3rd November in the Maharry Room at 7.00pm.

This is a massive event for our churches in Castleknock, Mulhuddart and Clonsilla to not only reach out to the local community but also to raise vital funds to help with the cost of running a parish.

WE NEED EVERYONE TO GET INVOLVED

You can help out in the following ways:

- **Sign up to the rota to steward the church during the Festival – these be two or three hour shifts over the weekend.**
- **Sign up to the rota to provide tea and coffee in the church on the Friday evening and Sunday.**
- **Help out with the set up of the trees in the week leading up to the Festival.**
- **Help out on the Saturday morning and late afternoon for the set up and take down for the Christmas Fair.**
- **Donate a prize for the raffle and sell raffle tickets.**
- **Help out with one of our church stalls at the Fair.**
- **Spread the word about the Festival weekend and invite people along.**

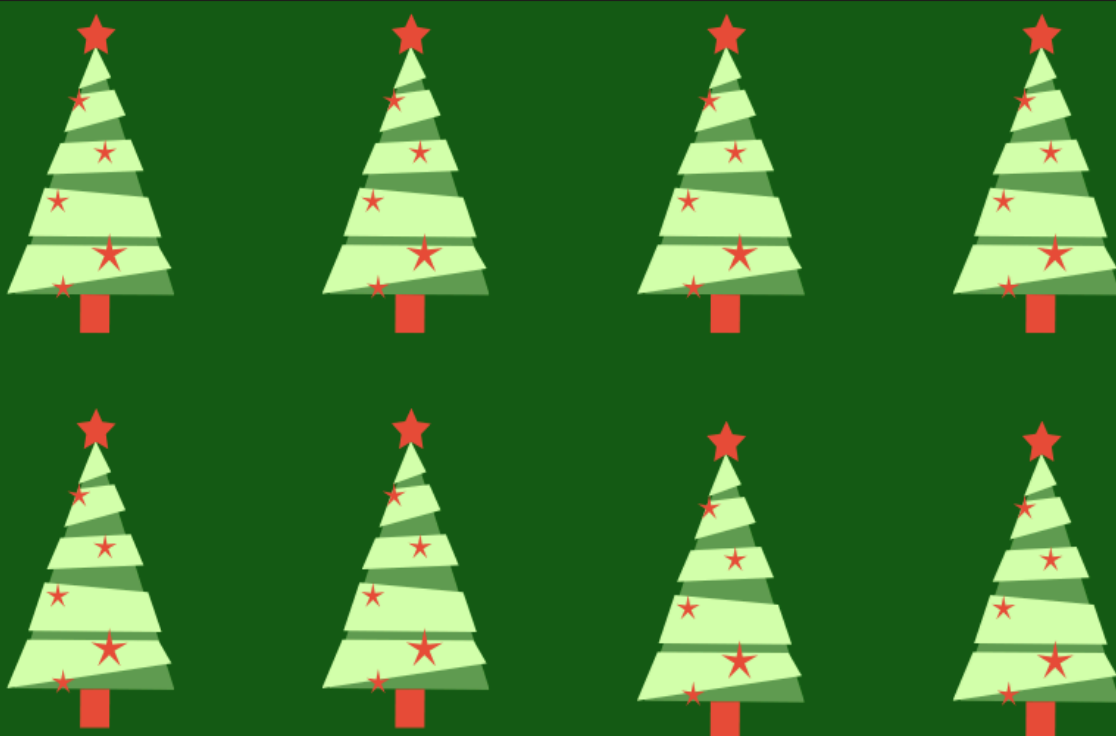
THIS FESTIVAL WILL NOT BE A SUCCESS UNLESS WE ALL PLAY ARE PART. DO NOT SIT BACK AND EXPECT OTHERS TO DO ALL THE WORK.

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 cmchristmastreefestival@gmail.com for further information.

The Festival will open on Friday 28th November at 6pm. 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 from 12noon to 4pm 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 with face painting and balloon modelling.

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.



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

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

WITH ARTS AND CRAFT FAIR

**ST BRIGID'S CASTLEKNOCK 28TH - 30TH NOVEMBER
OFFICIAL OPENING FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 6PM
CLOSING CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 4PM**

**ARTS AND CRAFT FAIR SATURDAY 12NOON - 4PM
CASTLEKNOCK PARISH CENTRE
LOCAL ART TO VIEW AND BUY
CRAFT STALLS
HOMEBAKES
SANTA'S GROTTO
REFRESHMENTS
RAFFLE
AND MORE**

ORGANISATIONS NEWS

Craft Corner

We had a great turnout for our decoupage craft to start our new season off well.

Thanks to Claire who did all the preparation and Emma who helped us through the steps of transforming a plain pot into a beautiful functional display piece. We will be looking at paper napkins in a new 'craft possibilities' light! October will see us creating our contribution to the Christmas Tree Festival.

We meet on November 24th 10.30 am – 12.00 noon and hopefully enjoy a Christmas lunch in December (date to be confirmed). New members more than welcome – no craft experience required.



Youth Group

In early October some of our Youth Group went along to the Diocesan Youth Council Big Day Out in Taney Parish joining with young people from across our United Diocese. There were a number of activities, games and BBQ during the afternoon. In the evening we joined for a time of worship in which two new Youth Interns were commissioned for our Diocese. It was wonderful to see so many young people all come together from churches across Dublin and Glendalough.



At our October monthly meeting we enjoyed some fun and games at Youth Group. All our games reminded us how we need each other as we thought about all those who pass the faith to us.

Our Youth Group members have been set the challenge of coming up with a new name for the group so we look forward to hearing their suggestions at our November meeting.

Youth Group meets again on Sunday 16th November at 6pm in Castleknock Parish Centre. Please encourage young people to come along and be part of our church family.



ORGANISATIONS NEWS

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots had great fun with their spooky party just before the Halloween break. The children had a ball and it looks like our wonderful team of leaders were enjoying themselves too!

Tiny Tots meets every Thursday during school term time in Castleknock Parish Centre from 10am – 11.30am



Castleknock National School



Everyone has settled back to school very well and several classes have started to undertake trips out.

3rd class visited the Phoenix Park on 29th September to celebrate National Tree Day with representatives from the Tree Council. The event was filmed and featured in RTE News2Day TV programme where 3rd class proved to be very knowledgeable.

5th Class participated in the Maths Trail in Farmleigh on 13th October as part of Maths Week.

6th Class attended a Racing Robots printing workshop in Blanchardstown Library on 14th October.

The Community Gardaí visited the school on 15th October and gave Halloween safety talks to 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes.

We said goodbye to Ms Aoife McMurdock in the middle of September and we look forward to welcoming Ms Denise Brennan to CNS as Deputy Principal after midterm. We have also welcomed Mary Russell to our staff as an SNA.

Boys' Brigade



Boys' Brigade began again in early September welcoming lots of new recruits. Our Junior section is thriving enjoying lots of squad games and creative activities such as making Minecraft keyrings and Ninja Stars.

In Anchors, the little ones have been enjoying themed evenings including Daniel and the Lions Den, Julia Donaldson characters, and dinosaurs.

Our Anchors Community Focus this term involved thinking about the great work our Fire Service does and the boys marked this by making 'Hero' posters for the Firefighters in Blanchardstown, which were delivered along with a box of Cadbury's Heroes.



Holy Baptism

On Sunday 26th October we were delighted to welcome Uriel into our church family through Holy Baptism. Uriel was joined by her parents Chukwuebuka and Hadith and Godparents Chukwudera, Marcelle and Chinenye. Uriel was full of smiles for her big day and we pray God's blessing upon her as she begins her journey of faith.



Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Paul Lawson and his wife Sarah who were married on Saturday 27th September in St Mary's Cathedral, Killarney. We wish Paul and Sarah God's richest blessing as they begin married life together.



Celebration of Pets Service

You can't beat the fun, mayhem and noise of a pet service. We had all three at our Celebration of Pets Service in October. It was great to be joined by so many beautiful dogs that afternoon in Castleknock Parish Centre as we celebrated all creatures great and small.

Thanks to all who came along and made it such a wonderful occasion.



UNITED HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

On Sunday 5th October we gave thanks to God for the gifts of the Harvest with our United Service in St Mary's Clonsilla.

The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables representing the beauty of God's creation. The church was well filled as the choir uplifted our worship with their anthem and we sang much loved harvest hymns.

There was great chat after church as we enjoyed refreshments together and we gathered a car load of non-perishable food items generously donated to support our local Foodbank.

The highlight of our service was to see so many of our children and young people take part through reading and bringing forward of the gifts. As we focused on our hunger for growing our faith and building up God's church we were thrilled to have two of our young people, Alvah and Ellie, share with us what God's creation means to them and why we should care for God's creation. Both inspired us all as they reminded us that all our gifts come from God, they were truly remarkable speaking with great clarity and love for God.

Rev Colin then challenged us all to examine how hungry we are for God.



UNITED HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 2026

Buy A Brick for Cambodia

You can support our church mission trip to Cambodia in July 2026 through "Buy a Brick." Donate to the build at any time in cash or directly through our online fundraising page

<https://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**



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY RESTORE

Habitat for Humanity ReStore Glasnevin

Prayers were answered and hard work rewarded when Habitat ReStore Glasnevin officially opened on Thursday 23rd October. A number of our parishioners were involved in getting the store ready for opening and it was wonderful to be joined by a few parishioners at the official opening.



As a parish we will continue to build on our link with Habitat For Humanity both locally through Restore and serving overseas. There are three main ways to get involved:



Shop

ReStore stocks a wide range of new and used DIY and home improvement materials at 50-75% lower than retail price.

[Find your local ReStore](#)



Donate

All products in ReStore are donated by organisations or individuals who want to help improve their community, the environment and lives of families in need.

[Learn more about donating](#)



Volunteer

There is a role for everyone at ReStore, from customer service to helping collect donations in the lorry.

[Become a volunteer](#)

For further information <https://www.habitatireland.org/joinus/restore/>

Materials Needed

Must be new or in working order

- ✓ **Building Materials**
Plasterboard, plywood, insulation, timber, brick/block, render, fencing, doors, windows and architectural salvage
- ✓ **Bathrooms and Plumbing**
Toilets, sinks, baths (*white only*), showers, pipes, taps, wall tiles
- ✓ **Hardware and Tools**
Hinges, doorknobs, handles, deadbolts, electrical, plumbing, nails, screws, nuts, bolts, fixings, DIY or gardening tools
- ✓ **Appliances**
Dishwashers, washers/dryers, refrigerators, microwave ovens, cookers/hobs
- ✓ **Kitchens**
Cupboards, worktops, sinks, taps, wall tiles
- ✓ **Flooring**
Carpet and rugs, wooden flooring, vinyl, ceramic or carpet tiles
- ✓ **Lighting and Electrical**
Lamps, lighting fixtures, cable, sockets, plugs, switches
- ✓ **Paint and Wallpaper**
Labelled tins and unopened rolls.
- ✓ **Furniture**
Home - dining tables, coffee tables, wardrobes, bed frames, bedside tables
Office - desks, chairs, bookshelves, filing cabinets

What we cannot accept

- ✗ Anything that doesn't work/needs a replacement part
- ✗ Hazardous materials/chemicals
- ✗ Appliances more than 10 years old
- ✗ Microwaves and dishwashers over 5 years old
- ✗ Single pane windows
- ✗ Mattresses

Drop off your items or book your free collection for larger items by calling your local store.

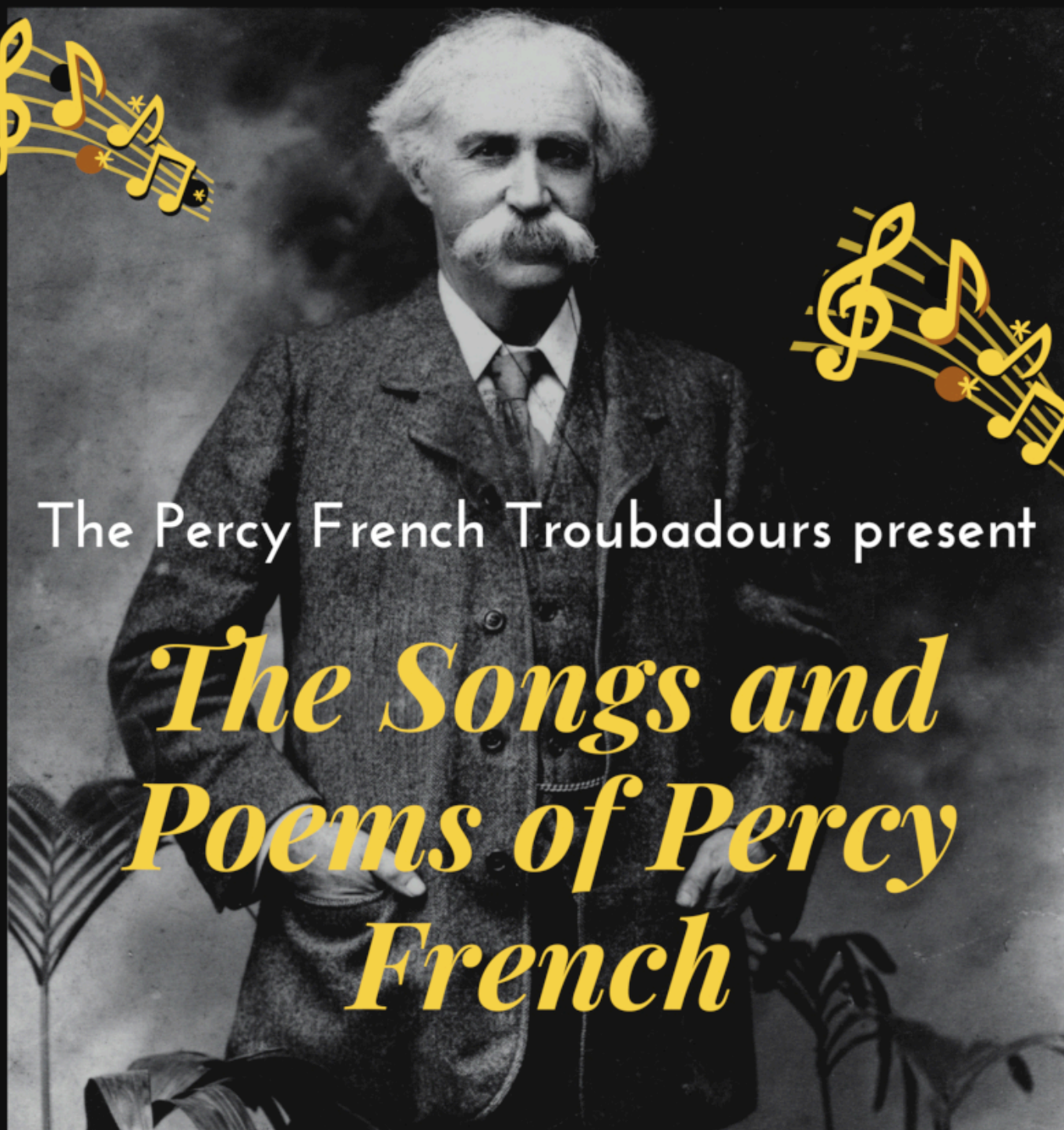
habitatireland.org/restore

Lisburn office: Riverside Centre, Lisburn BT27 5EA T: +44 28 9263 5635

Drogheda office : Unit 8, Donore Industrial Park, Drogheda A92 HFY7 T: +353 41 213 9894

E: info@habitatireland.org

Charity number **NI:** NIC103240 **ROI:** 20051785



The Percy French Troubadours present

***The Songs and
Poems of Percy
French***

Saturday 08 Nov 2025, 8pm

At the Oak Centre,

Maynooth Rd, Dunboyne, Co. Meath

Tickets: €20

**In Aid of St. Vincent de Paul and Church of Ireland
Dunboyne**

**Bookings: Phone 01 8252678 or directly at the Oak Centre
on weekday mornings.**