

**FEBRUARY 2017**

**RATHMICHAEL PARISH  
NEWSLETTER**

[www.rathmichael.dublin.anglican.org](http://www.rathmichael.dublin.anglican.org)



***My dear Parishioners & other friends,***

Having slid down the slippery, slimy snake of stressful sibilance in the ministerial game of snakes and ladders, I am regaining my zest for life and ministry again. Hoping that I am not climbing the trusty ladders again to find that they are resting against the wrong walls!!

And so. Being certain that we will each close our eyes for the last time some day, I am back to nagging about getting your affairs in order in terms of finance, preparing loved ones how to cope with finances, self care, legal matters of property and assets, spiritual welfare etc. Given that our average age span has increased exponentially over the last twenty years or so, the old rogue of dementia can visit and cause big issues. In my view, dying intestate is neglectful towards your loved ones. The simple answer is MAKE A WILL. But with the dementia factor it would seem to make sense to MAKE AN ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY. Personally I would avoid making a will using the internet and I use a solicitor to dot the I's and cross the t's and keep records. Money well spent.

Please, Please, Pretty Please, Pretty, Pretty, Pretty Please, discuss your funeral wishes with me, or write down your wishes and leave them with me or with someone for that dreaded day. I bang my old drum again in saying it is a great kindness to your grieving, shocked loved ones to have this simple preparation done and dusted.

I will have booklets called ***“THINK ahead, Speak for Yourself”*** in the church porch. It is a super booklet giving facts you may well have not thought of, and it is set out for you to fill out your wishes. Excellent.

If I get a reasonable interest and response I will arrange for a wise and articulate communicator to come and speak to us on the subjects of THINK, TALK, TELL, RECORD, REVIEW, which are all contained in the booklet.

As a pastor, I know a priori the quantum difference between those who are prepared for death and the dying process, and those who *“do not go gentle into that good night”*.

A deep sense of peace and calm, oils with balm the process of closing off one earthly light for a greater light beyond *“Where He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away”*

Revelation 21:4

I have been off the pastoral beat for awhile, so please do inform me or Anne or Lily if you know of anyone who needs pastoral attention.

As an aside, while I thought my vocabulary was not too, too bad, the words CAPTIOUS and PETTIFOGGING are new to me, and I'm told that for my own mental and physical health, that I should not rise to the bait and snarl when I come across it in practice. A BIG ask for me. But I'll try. Maybe!!! Big issues. Small issues. The latter can only be handled with Xanax, Deep Breaths, banging the wall, and Prayer. Perhaps!!

God bless, and a kind and caring 2017 in the Rathmichael Family please God.

**Fred      087 2482410**

## CHURCH SERVICES - FEBRUARY 2017

SUNDAY	08.30 Hrs	11.00 hrs	19.00 hrs	LECTORS
<b>The FOURTH SUNDAY before LENT</b>  <b>Proper 0</b>  <b>Green</b>  <b>5th FEBRUARY 2017</b>	H.C.	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>  Isaiah 58: 1-9a (9b-12) Psalm 112: 1-9 (10) 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12,(13-16) Matthew 5: 13-20	<b>EVENING PRAYER</b>	Irene Coulter
<b>The THIRD SUNDAY before LENT</b>  <b>Proper 1</b>  <b>Green</b>  <b>12th FEBRUARY 2017</b>	H.C.	<b>FAMILY SERVICE with HOLY BAPTISM</b>  Ecclesiasticus 15: 15-20 Psalm 119: 1-8 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9 Matthews 5: 21-37  <i>You are most welcome to join us for coffee after the service</i>	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>	Keith Garland
<b>The SECOND SUNDAY before LENT</b>    <b>Green</b>    <b>19th FEBRUARY 2017</b>	H.C.	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>  Genesis 1: 1 - 2:3 Psalm 136 Romans 8: 18-25 Matthew 6: 25-34	<b>COMPLINE</b>	Peter Grantham
<b>The SUNDAY before LENT</b>    <b>White</b>  <b>Proper 4</b>    <b>26th FEBRUARY 2-017</b>	H.C.	<b>MORNING PRAYER</b>  Exodus 24: 12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1: 16-21 Matthew 17: 1-9  <i>You are most welcome to join us for coffee after the service</i>	<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>	Helen Darcy

### GRIP & SLIP YOUTH GROUPS

Jonathan Byford, our Youth Worker, is getting ready for meetings with the Confirmation candidates. We will be joining with Rev. Rob Clements and candidates from Kiltarnan for these get togethers.

We look forward to the Confirmation Service when The Archbishop of Dublin, The Most Reverend Michael Jackson will confirm these young people on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 3.00 p.m. in Christ Church, Bray.

The Youth Groups will also be having their regular meetings and Jonathan will keep them up to date on those.  
Jonathan can be contacted on email: [byfordjonathan@gmail.com](mailto:byfordjonathan@gmail.com).  
Mobile:087 683 9272

### PARISH REGISTERS:

**Funeral:** 20th January 2017:

Carole Daynes, Dundrum, Dublin 16.

We extend our love and sympathy to Carole's children Leon and Jillian, her grandchildren Mia and Levi, her family members and many friends.

May they know and feel God's comfort and love at this sad time.

## FEBRUARY ROTAS

### THE THURSDAY GROUP

Our next get together will be on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 10.30 a.m. in the home of George and Verna Knaggs, 5 Ferndale Road, Rathmichael.

We look forward to seeing you there.  
If you require a lift – please phone Anne at 2824202.



### CHURCH COFFEE

**12th**      **Barbara Fagan - Jillian Horsfield**  
**Wendy Kenny - Sharon Cole**

**26th**      **Mary Went - Jill Bolton**  
**Jill Fleming - Marilyn Griffith**



### THE ALPHA/IN-BETWEEN BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will meet on Tuesday 31st January, 2017 @ 8.00 p.m. at the home of Linda Orr, Ballybride Cottage, Ballybride Road, Shankill, Phone: 2822471.

The books for January are "Holding" by Graham Norton and "Lying in Wait" by Liz Nugent.

The Book Club will meet on Tuesday 28th February, 2017 @ 8.00 p.m. in Rathmichael Rectory, Ferndale Road, Shankill at the kind invitation of Sonia - Phone: 087-6798876.

The book for the February will be selected at the January meeting.

### SUNDAY CLUB

DATE	4-6 yrs	7-9 yrs	10-12 yrs
5th	Shirley Farrell	Jane White	Debbie Duncan
26th	Niamh Anne McCann	Carol Beamish	Jonathan Byford

### CHURCH CRECHE

5th	Fernanda Power
12th	Family Service
19th	Grace O'Brien
26th	Kate McCauley

## CONGRATULATIONS LISA



Lisa Cox pictured on the steps of the Dining Hall in Trinity College Dublin after graduating with a Certificate in Contemporary Living following a two-year course offered by the National Institute for Intellectual Disability based in the college.

### CHURCH & BRASS CLEANING

DATE	CHURCH	BRASS
4th	Ann Thornburgh	Vacant
11th	Debbie Duncan	Valerie Martin
18th	Fiona Ashe	Valerie Martin
25th	Fiona Ashe	Vacant

### CHURCH FLOWERS

**5th & 12th**      **Corinne Hewat**

**19th & 26th**      **Margaret Nevin**



## RATHMICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL

We welcomed five chickens to Rathmichael. The children observed them hatching. They hatched very quickly this year and we kept them for two weeks. It was lovely to see them every day. Great to see the wonders of new life up close.

Don Briggs visited the school. He is an author and has written a book for younger children. He read to Junior Infants to Second Class. They also were able to see his illustrator who accompanied him. She drew dragons for them which was fascinating. All proceeds of his book are given to charity. The book was called 'The Boy who wanted a Dragon'. The children loved it.



2<sup>nd</sup> class held a concert for their parents. This was lovely. It was held in the evening so that parents and grandparents could attend.

The infant classes also held concerts for their families. These were very sweet. These concerts take a lot of patience and organisation. Well done to music teachers and teachers who had a very busy and active December.



Cold spells in our midst. Make sure all children are wrapped up to prevent colds etc.

Many thanks for all your continued support.

***GREAT NEWS! Junior Infants won first prize for their recycled Christmas Tree in Airfield. They won a trip to Airfield for the class. Well Done!***

***Caroline Senior, Principal***

## RATHMICHAEL BROWNIES

We had a very exciting winter term at Rathmichael Brownies. We enrolled three assistant leaders and five new Brownies.

Niamh Bhowan, our district commissioner attended to enrol the girls- a big welcome to the world of Guiding to you all!

Our older brownies spent several weeks preparing for their hostess badge which they completed on enrolment night. They did a great job planning what refreshments to get, arranging them all and welcoming parents and friends on the night.



We had a Brownie sleepover in the church hall in December. We had a "spooky owl hunt walk" in the dark before returning to

the hall to settle down for the night! All the brownies had a great time and enjoyed making breakfast the next day before going home tired but happy. As a Christmas outing the brownies went to see Disney's Moana in the cinema. Everyone agreed it was a great movie with a young female heroine to inspire us!

Our Brownie Pack is continuing to grow and is nearly full to capacity! We are looking forward to enrolling more brownies and getting out and about once the Spring arrives.



***Cathy White – Brown Owl – 087 298 9731***

## RATHMICHAEL LADYBIRDS:

### The Ladybirds are back!

The Rathmichael Ladybird Unit has reopened and will meet on

**Mondays in the Burton Hall,  
Rathmichael School, at 3.30pm.**

Ladybirds is for girls aged 5-7 and is a fun and exciting way for them to get started in Guiding. We have a number of places available, if you are interested please contact -

Niamh Bhowan @ 085 142 6160.