

MARCH 2019

RATHMICHAEL PARISH
NEWSLETTER

www.rathmichael.dublin.anglican.org



Dear Parishioners and friends,

Gosh. My last rector's letter after 26½ years. Do I say all nice things about parish ministry or do I tell the truth?

Whichever, I wager that few enough parishes are blessed with such competent people who voluntarily take on the many tasks of administration, prayer support and otherwise in a parish to keep life and soul in the community.

Being a parish rector is a peculiar old business. There is the dichotomy of needing to be as hard as nails in some situations and with some people, against hopefully the default position of being pastoral from deep within one's heart in other situations. Over time roots grow into one's heart and when death or other reason rips them out it can be difficult to smile sincerely for awhile.

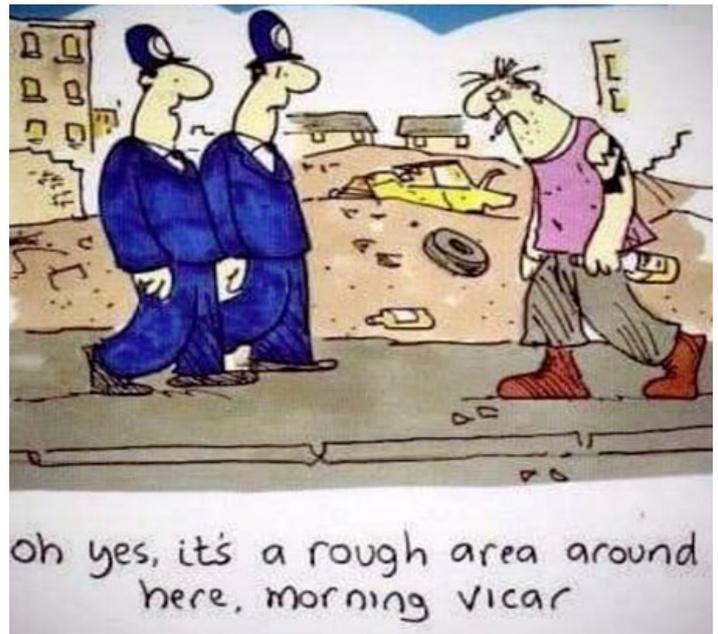
The 'loading' of Small issues versus Big issues can be a frustration in ministry and school management. Where great good is being affected, there a countering evil force in the spiritual realm will be present. The opening lines of the Evening Service of Compline (page 154) are clear if a tad blunt. *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith."* 1 Peter 5: 8,9.

When the sea is millpond calm the rocks may be unseen just inches below the surface. Such is parish and school management. At those times be vigilant and not complacent. Occasional storm and swell and the acerbic tongue, though unwelcome, identify the 'white horses' and you know where you stand and what to avoid.

It happens in offices, factories, villages, clubs, schools, and parishes. What does? Unfounded rumour which in some cases can be toxic. Whatever urges these critters have to be super-sleuth and perspicacious whilst then getting the wrong end of the stick is hard to stomach when it hurts decent people and organisations.

These are some of the less savoury bits and pieces of parish, school and wider life for each to look out for and challenge head on for everyone's sake.

When I was appointed to Rathmichael Archbishop Donald Caird summoned me to *"Marry the High Road and the Low Road and work assiduously on the school."* There was only one response to that archbishop. "Yes boss". And see how that turned out:-



Sonia, Hayley, Debbi, Doola the dog and I will grieve Rathmichael and its beloved people of God. It is not easy but "For everything there is a season....."

God bless

Frederick.

CHURCH SERVICES - MARCH 2019

DATE	08.30 HRS	11.00 HRS	19.00 HRS	LECTORS
The SUNDAY before LENT TRANSFIGURATION White 3rd MARCH 2019	H.C.	HOLY COMMUNION Exodus 34: 29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4:2 Luke 9: 28-36, (37-43)	EVENING PRAYER	Catherine Millar
The FIRST SUNDAY in LENT Violet 10th MARCH 2019	H.C.	FAMILY SERVICE Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16 Luke 4: 1-13 Please join us for Coffee following the service	HOLY COMMUNION	Shirley Farrell
The SECOND SUNDAY in LENT ST. PATRICK White 17th MARCH 2019	H.C.	HOLY COMMUNION Deuteronomy 32: 1-9 Psalm 145: 1-13 2 Corinthians 4: 1-12 John 4: 31-38	COMPLINE	Marian Conboy
The THIRD SUNDAY in LENT Violet 24th MARCH 2019	H.C.	MORNING PRAYER Isaiah 55: 1-9 Psalm 63: 1-9 Luke 13: 1-9 Please join us for Coffee following the service	HOLY COMMUNION	Michael Hill
The FOURTH SUNDAY in LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY Violet 31st MARCH 2019	H.C.	HOLY COMMUNION Exodus 2: 1-10 Psalm 34: 11-20 John 19: 25-27	EVENING SERVICE	Helen Darcy

ASH WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH 2019

ASH WEDNESDAY - 20.00 HRS - WORSHIP SERVICE

MARCH ROTAS

CHURCH & BRASS CLEANING

DATE	CHURCH	BRASS
2nd Mar	Marian Hofmann	Volunteers
9th	Frances Marshall	
16th	Ève McAulay	required
23rd	Eve McAulay	
30th	Thelma Clinton	

CHURCH FLOWERS

3rd & 10th Anne Golden	
17th St. Patrick's Day	
24th & 31st Thelma Clinton	



SUNDAY CLUB



	4-6 YRS	7-9 YRS	10-12 YRS
3 rd	Sarah Grimson	Carol Beamish	Debbie Duncan
24th	Hannah Harty	Gillian Nevin	Katie Fox

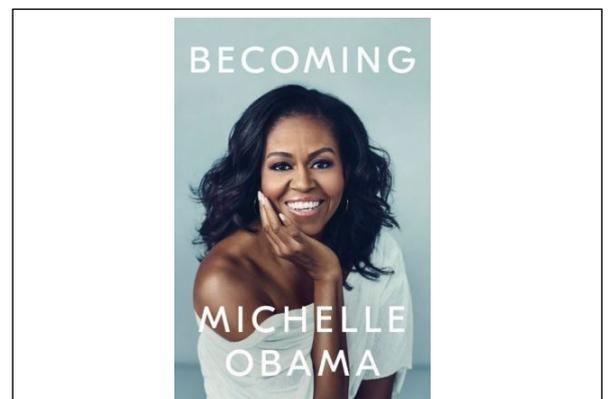
SUNDAY CRÈCHE

3rd	Jan Ovington
10th	Family Service
17th	Valerie Grier
24th	Danielle Fletcher
31st	Noreen White

CHURCH COFFEE

10th	Mark Duncan Gareth O'Keefe	Peter Richardson Jim Hendry
24th	John Bolton Ronnie Whelan Chris Byrne	

ALPHA/IN-BETWEEN BOOK CLUB



RATHMICHAEL WALKERS

<p>Rathmichael Walkers meet at the Church</p> <p>at 11am on Saturday March 30th.</p> <p>Choice of walks, pick on the day.</p>	
<p>Helen Darcy 087 234 2689</p>	

The Book Club will meet on Tuesday

26th March, 2019 @ 8.00 p.m. in the home of Marian Conboy, 8 Shrewsbury Hall, Shankill.

Phone: 086 307 0968

The Book we are reading for this meeting is
“Becoming” by Michelle Obama

PARISH REGISTERS:



Funerals: Wednesday 6th February 2019: John Edward Lewis, Cabinteely, Dublin 18. We extend our deepest sympathy to our organist Valerie on the sudden death of her husband John.

We will keep both her and John's sister Norma, the wider family circle and his friends in our prayers at this sad time.

Saturday 16th February 2019: Arthur Murphy, Loughlinstown, Dublin 18. Arthur was the husband of the late Patricia and father of Shane and Mark. We extend our condolences to Shane and Mark and Arthur's wider family circle and friends and assure them of our prayers as they grieve their loss.

Wednesday 20th February 2019: Elizabeth Edwina Gordon, Rathmichael, Co. Dublin. Elizabeth was the wife of the late Rev. John M. Gordon. We extend our sympathy to her daughters Kate, Emma and Edwina, her grandchildren Natasha, Joshua, Harriet, Gordon, Myles, Cosmo and Albert, her sons-in-law, her wider family circle and many friends.

*O Lord, support us all the day long,
until the shadows lengthen
and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.*

*Then, Lord, in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging,
a holy rest, and peace at the last.*

A Place to call Home

This is a project initiated by the Diocese of Dublin and Glendalough to raise €3,000,000 over 3 years to assist the Irish Refugee Council in their efforts to provide housing and related support to refugees who have come to Ireland, and especially to those in Direct Provision.

The Chief Executive of the Irish Refugee Council, Nick Henderson, will speak about the project at the 11.00 hrs. service on Sunday 24th March and it is hoped there will be a good attendance to hear about this project.

Further details about the project are on a poster in the church porch.

Geoffrey Perrin



FAREWELL TO FRED, SONIA, HAYLEY AND DEBBI

Here in Rathmichael Parish and Rathmichael Parish School we are preparing for a very big change in our parish life as, at the end of February, we say farewell to our dear rector Fred when he retires. We will also be saying farewell to his wife Sonia and daughters Hayley and Debbi who will not be retiring but will be leaving the rectory.

Fred has been rector of Rathmichael Parish for 26½ years which makes him the record holder as the longest serving incumbent in the history of the parish.. Over those years his compassion and spiritual guidance has been a source of comfort and encouragement to parishioners through all the changing stages in life. His pastoral care of people dealing with bereavement, sickness, financial distress and sometimes just dealing with the strains of daily life has been appreciated by many both in the parish and beyond.

This man has a stubborn streak and no more so than when he stuck his heels in years ago and pushed the Department of Education and the local county councillors until Rathmichael Parish School got extra classrooms and became one of the most sought after schools in the area. Many children have already had the benefit of their education there and many more will do so over the years to come.

Blessed with good humour, Fred took part in the lighter side of parish life too – acting in pantomimes, overseeing numerous parish functions, raising money for the church and for charities, and shed blood, sweat and probably tears over many parish fetes in Rathmichael. He was always first to roll his sleeves up and help with the heavy lifting and always insisted on driving the JCBs and diggers when serious maintenance work had to be done. Actually, no one else was allowed to do the job – Health and Safety and all of that!



Behind every good man etc. etc., and Sonia was always at Fred's side with encouragement and help. When the flag went up for help with fund raising for the church or for charity Sonia always managed to rally the troops and, over the years, organised fund raisers and social occasions for different causes. Flower festivals, painting exhibitions, good as new sales, and the dress up occasion – An Edwardian Tea Party.

Quite a number of parishioners have watched Fred and Sonia's daughters, Hayley and Debbi, grow from toddler and baby, when they arrived in Rathmichael, to now working in their chosen professions - Hayley as a Primary School teacher and Debbi as a Midwife. Well done girls - you have made us all proud!

We wish Fred and Sonia, Hayley and Debbi every blessing for the future – and we hope they will always remember us because we will always remember them.

Anne Thompson

P45 and ADIOS – the rector's viewpoint.

Basically over the last 26½ years I have just held Sonia's coat while she and others launched new projects, supporting ministry, and kept the show on the road. People willing and more than able to take responsibility. The Alpha Club, Alpha in Between spawning the The Book Club which is now 15 years old. The Walking Club, Mums and Toddlers, Nearly New Clothes Rail sales leading Buy My Dress, Craft Fairs for 17 years just before Christmas. The idea was that the older community could do their Christmas Shopping on their doorstep. The Flower Festival and Art Sale. The list goes on about bubbly Sonia and her traveller business trait along with decent people putting their shoulders to the wheel to the greater good and to the Glory of God.

Fred

Rev'd Terry Lilburn

Mobile: 086 886 5361

Email: terryilburn@gmail.com

Dear Parishioners,

At the time this is being written, I am putting the finishing touches to my ministry in the Parish of Powerscourt with Kilbride.

Appointed there as curate-assistant in September 2011, the last seven and a half years have been amongst the most fulfilling of my life and I thank God and the wonderful people of Enniskerry and its environs for this time. For the past five months I have had the privilege of looking after the parish with the assistance of Canon Fred and I know we hand it over to Rev'd Cathy Hallissey in good shape. Simultaneously I am preparing to take up a position in Rathmichael as priest in charge of pastoral care during the interregnum and may well have done so by the time this is being read. I am very conscious of the honour and responsibility, following in the footsteps of Canon Fred Appelbe, Canon Billy Marshall, Revd. Ernon Purdue, Archbishop Caird and others. I do not know what the future holds but I know who holds the future. Having taken services here in 2017 and 2018 as well as meeting with some of you whilst wearing another hat, I am very much looking forward to the task. I also know that there is a wonderful group of dedicated people already in place to smooth my pathway for however long the vacancy will be for. Change is not always easy to manage but with God's help we will I am sure make the transition with the minimum of upheaval and I ask forgiveness of any shortcomings in advance!

My wife, Breda, aka the duchess, has indicated that she will be accompanying me through this part of my life's journey and from time to time other assorted family members may appear. If you would like Holy Communion at home by reason of being unable to attend divine worship or if you are going to be hospitalised please do let me know as these aspects will form an important part of my ministry in the parish.

My sincere thanks to the rector who has been not only a wonderful colleague for fifteen years but a friend and mentor whenever I needed one. I wish him a long and well-deserved retirement and God's every blessing on him, his wife Sonia and family and also this parish. From my heart to yours.

And finally....my daughter tells me that whilst on holidays recently she encountered a dead rodent in the swimming pool. Unfortunately mouth to mouse resuscitation failed to revive it .

Terry

Ten things I do (or used to) that my (grown-up) children don't	Ten things they do or have done that I don't (Nor want to!)
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Make marmalade2. Send Christmas cards3. Shop (as in physically visit) in the super market4. Bake5. Plant bulbs6. Repair clothes (darn socks, sew buttons turn collars and cuffs)7. Hook rugs8. Drink and drive9. Cook outdoors over an open fire10. Use a land-line telephone	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Drink cocktails2. Bungee jump3. Climb Kilimanjaro4. Have floordrobes (an untidy pile of clothes that have been left on the floor)5. Adopt cats6. Use social media daily7. Colour their hair8. Go to rock concerts in the open air9. Go to bed early when they're tired10. Travel to the U.S.A.

RATHMICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL

Four of our children from 6th Class attended the annual Credit Union quiz held in the Killiney Castle Hotel. Fun was had by all. Many thanks to the parents who attended with them. The Credit Union continue to be very supportive of our school and have indeed given us a tablet which we can raffle. We intend to use this in our school quiz.

We had a Dance Day where the children got to dance to music for a period of the day in our hall. We aim to keep our children as active as we can in various different ways. This year we are going for our Active Flag so activity is especially paramount.



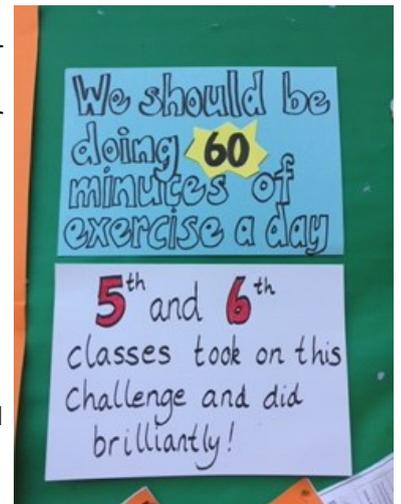
We are running around Europe also. Each class takes time out during the day to run around our Astro pitch. The distance is accounted for and each class is running to a different place in Europe.

Running and dancing is extremely good for the children's wellbeing. Well-being and mindfulness are important to us this year as we are doing our school self-evaluation in

this area. It gives the children time away from studies, time to regroup themselves and allows the body to let off steam in an appropriate manner.

Canon Fred Appelbe retires on 28th February and will be a huge loss to the community. We held an evening for PTA members, Board of Management, Staff, Ancillary Staff etc. in the Old Conna Golf club on 7th February. The Legato Singers sang for us in the background and it was a lovely event. The Legato Singers play such lovely music and are available for events, weddings and funerals and can be reached at 0879539348 and thelegatosingers@gmail.com and on this website www.legatosingers.com

We were able to acknowledge all of Fred's amazing efforts over the years both in Rathmichael Church and in the school. He will be sorely missed by one and all.



Caroline Senior



Upcoming events.

Registrations St. Anne's Resource Centre

3rd March from 11.30am and Wed 6th 2.15pm.

St. Anne's School Mon 4th and Fri 8th Mar 2.15pm.

Church door collection 9th and 10th March.

Handwriting and Art 10th March. Athletics 28th April.

Also mini rugby, GAA, Talent, Quiz, Pitch n Putt

For more details email shankillcommunitygames@gmail.com



Marian Conboy

Invites you to

Coffee, Tea & Chat

in aid of

The Irish Cancer Society

on

Friday 22nd March 2019

10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

at

8 Shrewsbury Hall,

Shankill.

