## **AUGUST 2019**

## RATHMICHAEL PARISH NEWSLETTER

www.rathmichael.dublin.anglican.org

#### Dear Parishioners,

Alice laughed. 'There's no use trying,' she said. 'One can't believe impossible things.'

'I daresay you haven't had much practice,' said the Queen. 'When I was your age, I always did it for half-an-hour a day. Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

The quotation from "Through the Looking Glass and what Alice Found There," seems at first to be another piece of Lewis Carroll's (aka Reverend Charles Dodgson) zany but amusing wit. Ordained a deacon in the Church of England in 1861, whilst declining ordination to the priesthood a year later, Dodgson was nevertheless a committed Christian. As such he would have believed "impossible things" such as the healing miracles of Jesus, the Resurrection, the ascension of Christ into heaven and the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles. Had someone tried to tell him of the work of doctors in the field of twenty-first century medicine. space travel, television and mobile 'phones he would likely have found those things impossible to believe in. Today for many people the reverse is the case. They can believe in a world that runs on the discoveries of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, particularly in the area of electronic technology and hospitals are temples where life and health are routinely restored. Faith in God however has taken a battering and is often relegated to the position once reserved for fantasists such as Jules Verne, C.S. Lewis or J.R.R. Tolkien. Millions are fascinated by the "impossible" feats of magic as performed by Dynamo, Chris Angel or David Copperfield whilst pouring scorn on those who believe in a creator "of all that is, seen and unseen."

All that is now seen has always existed, for humankind has created absolutely nothing, merely reconfigured elements that have existed since the world began. All that we have and all that we need for a wonderful life is here at our fingertips but what have we done with all this magical stuff? The poorest countries and people have been exploited for the benefit of the rich, natural habitats are being destroyed at an alarming rate and we continue to devise ever more efficient ways of destroying those regarded as enemies. There are probably more people dying from war, disease, drought or famine than at any time in the history of the world and yet we have the wherewithal to prevent most if not all of this needless human suffering.

Time was when humankind regarded itself as the pinnacle of God's created world and there was no reason why life should not continue as it always had. However, as we have seen, today's impossible is tomorrow's possible and many now believe the extinction of our species is an ever-growing likelihood.

The good news is however that we have been given not just the gift of faith that allows us to believe in impossible, or perhaps unimagined things, but also the gifts of hope and of love.



(1Cor.13:13) God's promises have never failed to be honoured therefore our hope is realistic. And as for love, what better way of reciprocating God's love for us than by loving one another? Is it impossible that humankind can find a way forward to peace and harmony? Today perhaps, but the future beckons and with God nothing is impossible.

One of the greatest gifts that God has given us is the gift of music. Johann Sebastian Bach lived from 1685 to 1750 and is considered by many people to be one of the greatest composers who ever lived. Some of his music is still in our hymnals today.

Whenever he wrote a piece of music, he always wrote the letters S.D.G. at the bottom of the music. Those letters stand for the words Soli Deo Gloria which means "To God alone be the glory." He realised that his music was a gift from God and that he had a responsibility to use his gift to the glory of God.

Music is a very important part of our worship. St Paul wrote, "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your hearts to the Lord; always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 5:19-20)

Some people come to church, but they never sing. They have a lot of excuses for not doing so. Here are some of them. "I can't carry a tune in a bucket." Sorry, but that excuse won't wash. The Bible doesn't say, "Sing to the Lord with a beautiful voice." It says, "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise" (Psalm 98:4)

Another excuse is, "I don't like the hymns that are chosen." That excuse won't work either. Why? Because the hymns aren't for us, they are for God. Since God created the gift of music, I think he probably likes all kinds of music!

Here's another excuse "I don't know that hymn." The Bible says, "Sing unto the Lord a new song." (Isaiah 42.10) How can we sing a new song to the Lord, if we won't even try to learn it?

Isn't it time for to stop making excuses and use whatever musical gift God has given us to glorify Him. Soli Deo Gloria! To God alone be the glory!

Thank you, Father, for the gift of music. May we always use that gift to sing and make music in our hearts to the Lord.

Amen.

## **CHURCH SERVICES - AUGUST 2019**

DATE	08.30 HRS	11.00 HRS	19.00 HRS	LECTORS
The SEVENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY  Green  4th AUGUST 2019	H.C.	HOLY COMMUNION  Ecclesiastes 1:2,12-14;	EVENING PRAYER	Michael Barrett
The EIGHTH SUNDAY after TRINITY  Green  11th AUGUST 2019	H.C.	MORNING PRAYER (Rite 2) with HOLY BAPTISM  Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-22 Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16 Luke 12:32-40  Please join us for coffee following the service	HOLY	Debbie Duncan
The NINTH SUNDAY after TRINITY  Green 18th AUGUST 2019	H.C.	HOLY COMMUNION  Jeremiah 23:23-29  Psalm 82  Hebrews 11:29-12:2  Luke 12:49-56	COMPLINE	George Knaggs
The TENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY  Green  25th AUGUST 2019	H.C.	MORNING PRAYER  Isaiah 58:9b -14 Psalm 103:1-8 Luke 13:10-17  Please join us for coffee following the service	HOLY	Caroline Senior

## **CARRIER BAGS**

We always need a good supply of carrier bags for our customers to take home all the bargains they buy at the Fete!

If you have any carrier bags that you can give us - please leave them into the Erck Hall or the Burton Hall the week before the Fete.

Thank you!

## **AUGUST ROTAS**

#### **CHURCH & BRASS CLEANING**

DATE	CHURCH	BRASS
3rd	Pamela Hill	Vacant
10th	Barbara McWilliam	Jenny Elmes
17th	Barbara McWilliam	Jenny Elmes
24th	Eve McAulay	Vacant
31st	Eve McAuley	Vacant

#### **CHURCH COFFEE**

11th August Avril McWilliams

Mary Went & Helen Darcy

25th August The Coulter Family



## **RATHMICHAEL WALKERS**

Rathmichael Walkers meet at the Church on Saturday, August 24th at 10.30 am.

Everyone welcome.

Contact: Helen Darcy 087 234 2689



#### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

3rd & 10th Denise Deane

17th & 24th Anne Colville



### THE ALPHA/IN-BETWEEN BOOK CLUB



Three books have been chosen for Summer reading:

"The Salt Path" by Raynor Winn

"Little Faith" by Nickolas Butler

"The Devotion of Suspect X" by Keigo Higishino

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 24th September, 2018 - venue to be decided.

Enjoy your Summer reading.

Ladies, if a man says he will fix it, he will.

There is no need to remind him every 6 months about it.





## RATHMICHAEL PARISH & SCHOOL FETE

# SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2019 12 noon - 4.00 p.m.

Dear Parishioners,

It is getting closer to Fete 2019 and hopefully the fantastic weather will continue!

Remember the date the 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Here's what we need to make our Fete successful: -

- Donations of goods of all types new and used but only in good condition please
   as it costs the Parish money to dispose of broken items
  - Offers of help before, during and after the Fete

Raffle prizes & bottles

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• Sponsorship of some of our ever-growing costs

Offers of locations where we can display some signs to publicise the Fete

Some dry, calm sunny weather.

We are especially appealing to new members of the Parish to get involved and to join in this team effort. I have often said that the Fete is hard work but it is also a most enjoyable, social event that you will find very satisfying and rewarding. I can truly say that from personal experience.

So please, please get involved, - don't be shy – please give any Fete Committee member or stall manager a call with offers of help.

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## Between Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September only, from 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

Adult Clothes, Children's Clothes, Shoes, Bags, Hats, etc.

## can be left at the Erck Hall

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White Elephant, Collector's Corner, Books, Baby Equipment, Sports Goods, Home Entertainment, Toys, Jewellery, Cosmetics, Soft Furnishings, etc.

### can be left at the Burton Hall.

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All other stalls, bottles, plants, sweets, cakes, jams, refreshments, etc., please contact the stall managers directly.

We could do with many helping hands on these evenings so please consider giving a few hours during that week.

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September the Committee will be "setting up" Fete 2019 from 9.00 a.m. until dark and we would greatly welcome your assistance at any time during this busy day.

Also on Saturday after the Fete closes at 4.00 pm. we would really appreciate help with the clearing up part of our venture and again on Sunday morning immediately after the 11.00 service. So please help us if you can during these times. It really is a case of many hands etc.....!

We are looking forward to providing an enjoyable and successful Fete with bargains, fun and entertainment for all and we hope to see you there on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, in advance of the Fete itself I would like to thank you for your support which I know will be forthcoming once more in 2019.

David Simmons Chairman Fete Committee 087 636 0458

Email: simmons.david289@gamil.com

## **STALLHOLDERS**

Adult Clothes	June Lawless	087 797 3537	
Baby Equipment	Shirley Farrell	083 449 6576	
Books	Lily and Chris Byrne	01 2821021/ 087 222 9633	
Burgers	Peter Harty	087 192 8905	
Car Park	Maurice Horan	087 253 7262	
Collector's Corner	Anne Golden	086 400 4277	
	Valerie Robinson	086 602 3374	
Games	Trish O'Neill	School 01 2824794	
Gate	Robert King-Hall	086 252 3911	
Home Entertainment	Paul Barron	087 654 0257	
Jewellery	Samantha Van Aswegan	087 990 0868	
Plants	Susan Stuart	087 274 7471	
Raffle/Sponsorship	Sue Melbourne	086 325 3576	
Country Fayre	Heather McNally	086 820 4165	
	Kate McAuley	089 469 6708	
Veggie Stir-fry	Heather Roche	086 212 0117	
Refreshments	Jean Crawford	086 837 5079	
	Martha O'Donnell	087 414 1338	
Shoe/bags	Sinead Miller	087 927 3700	
Smoothies	Richard Marshall	086 026 1188	
Food / Ice Cream	Geoffrey Perrin	087 917 4452	
Soft Furnishings	Niamh-Anne McCann	086 088 7277	
Sports Centre	Charlotte Norwood	087 247 5372	
Sweets	Pia & Laura (Mark)	087 620 9800	
Toys	Heidi & Kerry	086 838 0550	
Wheel of Fortune	Graeme Slattery	083 330 2015	
	Ronan Anderson	087 960 7058	
White Elephant	Peter Richardson	087 065 2312	
Stallholders Lunches	Claire Miller &	086 875 0540	
	Kim Hannigan	086 363 6218	
PTA	Heidi Vallejo	086 867 7874	
	Kerry Grantham	087 951 3131	

## **FETE COMMITTEE**

Dave Simmons
Caroline Senior
Debbie Duncan
Clare Perry
Paul Barron
Nick Ashe
Peter Harty
Peadar Bruton
John Bolton
Frank & Trish O'Neill
Crawford Kidd
Mark Kenny
Susan Stuart
Corinna Knaggs

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## **URGENT REQUEST**

## RATHMICHAEL FETE JAM STALL

Dear Parishioners,

Our team is standing by ready to make some delicious jam for our very popular jam stall but we desperately need fruit!!

Can you help? Donations of fruit in any quantity would be greatly appreciated.

We will willingly pick it.

Sugar or a donation to help us buy some would also be very welcome.

Many thanks,

Kate McCauley - 089 469 6708 Heather McNally - 086 820 4165





## Bathmichael School Grounds, Shankill

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 12.00 noon to 4.00 p.m.





