

AUGUST 2020

RATHMICHAEL PARISH

NEWSLETTER

www.rathmichael.dublin.anglican.org



Dear Parishioners and others,

As someone in the alleged vulnerable category, vis á vis Covid 19, the question I have been asking myself since the lifting of the restrictions, is *“How safe do I feel in this situation?”* I am now free to travel where I want to, to go shopping, to entertain friends or relatives, to go to church on a Sunday morning. I observe social distancing, I wear a mask in enclosed spaces or when shopping, I do not shake hands with people even though I have not seen them in many months. Continuing to follow government guidelines, I cancelled my planned holiday abroad (booked last December) and instead am taking just a week here at home. (It will cost me more than two weeks away in the sun would have, but what price one’s health?)

Despite my advanced age, I feel quite comfortable in engaging in most normal activities as long as I am reasonably careful. I realise, however, that some people view matters differently and that “normal” activity for them is still some way off.

In “Judge not, that ye be not judged.” Far be it from me to tell anyone what they should and should not do, each to their own and each person will have their own circumstances, priorities, viewpoints and feelings around safety, to take into consideration.

Regrettably, I am still precluded from my role as hospital chaplain, but the situation in hospitals at present is extremely uncertain and the work of a hospital chaplain has changed considerably. Whilst they may be permitted to visit in end of life (eol) situations it is by no means certain that they will be allowed more than the briefest of visits to any patient, usually if the person concerned actually requests one. Only one visit per admission seems now to be the norm.

On a brighter note I am delighted that we have been able to return to holding our Sunday morning service in church, albeit a shorter service and with some restrictions

We are most grateful to our “Covid Committee” for the work that they have done to allow this to happen.

Locking the door in March was the easy part, re-opening it safely was quite another matter. We have been most fortunate in having the guidance of Richard Marshall who works in St Vincent’s Private Hospital with regard to keeping things in accordance with government guidelines. Your safety is of paramount importance to us, so if you have yet to see how we do things now feel free and safe to join us on Sunday at 11.00am

Thanks also to Paul Barron for technical assistance in getting our recorded services up on line. We will continue to put these up on YouTube and on our dedicated parish Facebook page. Initially I thought that recording these services would be easy but discovered it was somewhat more difficult than it appears. (Check out Rev. Nicola Halford on Facebook at Enniscorthy and Monart Union of Parishes).

Regrettably we had to forego our Easter Services, the Seder Meal, the car treasure hunt, healing service, the blessing of pets, Marion Conboy’s Daffodil Day coffee morning not to mention our big fund-raiser and social event which is the Fête. We will however be holding a picnic in the rectory grounds after church service on Sunday 16th August by way of re-establishing some of the community spirit we have missed during lockdown.

Thank you to all those who signed up for direct debit, it has been greatly appreciated and has meant a smaller than anticipated shortfall in our income. May I wish all of you a very happy, pleasant and safe August.

And finally..... I asked my daughter to pass me the telephone directory. She laughed, called me an old dinosaur and handed me her iPhone. The wasp is now dead, the screen on the ‘phone is cracked and my daughter’s furious.

Terry

LECTIONARY AUGUST 2020

DATE	11.00 HRS
<p>The EIGHTH SUNDAY after TRINITY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Green</p> <p>2nd August 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HOLY COMMUNION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah 55:1-5 Psalm 145:8-9,15-22 Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 13-21</p>
<p>The NINTH SUNDAY after TRINITY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Green</p> <p>9th August 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MORNING PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 Kings 19:9– 18 a Psalm 85:8-13 Romans 10: 5-15 Matthew 14:22-33</p>
<p>The TENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Green</p> <p>16th August 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HOLY COMMUNION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah 56:1,6-8 Psalm 67 Romans 11:1-2a,29-32 Mathew 15: 21-28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE SERVICE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE PICNIC IN THE RECTORY</p>
<p>The ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Green</p> <p>23rd August 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MORNING PRAYER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138 Romans 12:1-8 Mathew 16: 13-20</p>
<p>The TWELTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Green</p> <p>30th AUGUST 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HOLY COMMUNION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jeremiah 15:15-21 Psalm 26:1-8 Romans 12:9-21 Mathew 16:21-28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THIS SERVICE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE EASTER VESTRY</p>

The services for August will take place in the church following the Covid guidelines.

The services will also be on the Parish Facebook page and on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9bOeLVvvTpZNbtbgSVC_XQ

That will take you directly to the channel and you will see any new videos we post there.

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY

Interim Guidelines from the House of Bishops relating to the Administration of Holy Communion



The following has been adapted/copied from the guidelines issued by the House of Bishops for the resumption of services of Holy Communion.

The House of Bishops is extremely aware that the continuing absence of Communion in both kinds for lay people attending public worship will be a source of sadness and deprivation for very many. They recognise that this situation cannot continue indefinitely, but equally that a suitable solution cannot hastily be identified in the short period before public worship resumes. They therefore commend the following guidance for general use in the dioceses on the strict understanding that it applies until Sunday November 1st 2020, All Saints' Day, at the latest. By then they will have given further consideration to methods by which Holy Communion in both kinds might be restored.

It is inevitable that for some time yet recipients of the sacrament will receive in one kind only, namely the bread. We would stress therefore that this is no time for substantial innovations in our Eucharistic practice which are not the consequence of very careful consideration. For example, the use of individual glasses at Holy Communion is NOT recommended. They have not been a feature of the historic practice of the Church of Ireland. The Prayer Book clearly teaches that those not in a position to receive the sacrament physically can be assured that they are partakers by faith of the body and blood of Christ, and of the benefits conveyed thereby.

The following specific points concerning the actual celebration of Holy Communion may prove useful in the context of wider guidance concerning the reopening of churches generally.

Communion other than for the presiding priest (or bishop) should be in one kind only. Ordinary bread or wafer bread may be used - the latter is arguably more convenient in situations where hygiene is being scrupulously emphasised, and the fact that it is already permitted for the communion of the sick would seemingly permit its additional use in situations of potential contagion. However, choices should not be made at this time which might be insensitive in many congregations.

Both elements, namely bread and wine, are of course consecrated, but only the presiding minister drinks from the chalice.

Interim Guidelines from the House of Bishops relating to the Administration of Holy Communion contd....

For the time being, it is preferable that only the presiding minister handles the vessels and administers the sacrament. Given that it will be in one kind only and numbers attending will be curtailed in many places, it is much easier to control hygiene if this is one person's responsibility. If it is really necessary for assistance to be sought with the administration of the sacrament, those involved must observe the most scrupulous hand hygiene.

Those presiding at the Eucharist should cleanse their hands thoroughly with a recommended alcohol based sanitiser repeatedly during the liturgy, and always before the preparing of the Table and the saying of the Eucharistic prayer. The bread and wine should be placed on the Table by the priest alone and should not for the present be brought forward by members of the congregation.


It would be prudent for the priest to repeat the cleansing of his /her hands after the Thanksgiving and before the fraction / distribution, particularly if during the Eucharistic prayer there has been contact with books or other pieces of paper.

During the administration of the sacrament, the priest should not touch anyone – the same applies if individual blessings are being offered. People should not kneel together at the communion rail. There may be certain buildings where it is safer for the priest, rather than the people, to move about the church while the sacrament is being administered.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Nothing that has been already said specifically addresses the issue of the communion of the housebound and sick in homes, hospitals and nursing homes.

'Private' communions, should also be in one kind only for the present. Those administering the sacrament should adhere fully to the public health guidelines related to the context which they are visiting.



*Almighty and Eternal God, our refuge in every danger,
to whom we turn in our distress, in Faith we pray,
look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead,
comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying,
strength to health care workers, wisdom to our leaders and
the courage to reach out to all in love,
so that together we may give glory to your holy name
through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns
with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever. Amen.*

Easter General Vestry

This very important meeting, in effect the parish AGM, scheduled for 20th March, was yet another one of the casualties of the pandemic lockdown. It has now been rescheduled for the **30th August 2020**.

Whilst this is not an ideal date, it must be held at latest by 6th September in order for all the information to be collated in time for the Diocesan Synod in October.

This year is a Triennium Year in which members along with Supplementalists are elected to Diocesan Synods. These posts are for a period of three years.

We also need to elect a Select Vestry and a Board of Nomination and Supplementalists. If you wish to nominate someone for any of these posts, please seek their willingness to serve and their permission to let their name go forward before taking the matter further.

The meeting will be held immediately after church on the day in question and the elections will be its sole business.

Details regarding this meeting, from the Select Vestry, are on Page 6.

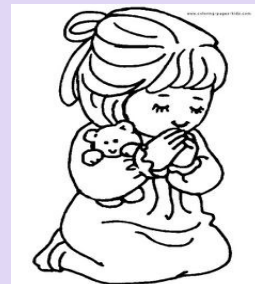
FLOWER ROTA - AUGUST

1st & 8th Denise Deane

15th, 22nd & 29th Anne Colville



A Prayer for You



*God bless you in the morning
with his presence shining bright
and make your whole day happy
with his radiant love and light.*

*God bless you in the evening
when the daytime hours depart
and like a benediction
leave his peace within your heart.*

RATHMICHAEL PARISH

GENERAL EASTER VESTRY 2020

July 2020

Dear Parishioner,

You may recall that because of Covid 19 we were unable to hold our usual Easter Vestry this year. This has meant that the Select Vestry appointed in 2019 has continued to serve in that capacity.

New Diocesan regulations have been issued to parishes to say that special 'Easter' vestry meetings have to be held by 6th September next to appoint Select Vestry members and also, because this is a year for triennial elections, to elect Parochial Nominators and Synodspeople for each parish.

In Rathmichael this special meeting will be held on Sunday 30th August.

Each of the members of the current Select Vestry has agreed to let their name go forward for re-election.

There is one vacancy and we have already received one nomination. If that is still the situation by 30th August then these 12 will be re-elected.

However if there are additional nominations there will have to be the usual voting procedure on 30th August. Any further nominations must be restricted to persons on the parish electoral role, must have their permission and should be sent to us.

For Rathmichael Parish Select Vestry.

Lily Byrne 087 222 9683.

Geoffrey Perrin 087 9174452.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Imagine for a moment that you were born in 1900.

When you're 14 the First World War starts and when it ends when you are 18; there have been 22 million deaths.

Shortly afterwards a global pandemic called the Spanish flu kills 50 million people. You come out alive and unharmed and you are 20 years old.

When you are 22 Stalin comes to power in the Soviet Union and begins a reign of terror that lasts for 30 years.

Then at 29, you survive the global economic crisis that began with the collapse of the New York Stock Exchange, causing inflation, unemployment and famine.

When you are 33, the Nazis come to power in Germany.

You are 39 when World War II starts and it ends when you are 45. During the Holocaust, 6 million Jews die. There were over 60 million deaths in total during that war.

When you are 49, Mao Zedong comes to power in China and since then the Chinese Communist Party has presided over famines, wars and the biggest prison the world has ever experienced.

When you are 52 the Korean War starts. The Korean Peninsula is destroyed.

When you are 64, the Vietnam War begins and ends when you are 75

A child born in 1985 thinks his grandparents have no idea how difficult life is, but they have survived many wars and disasters.

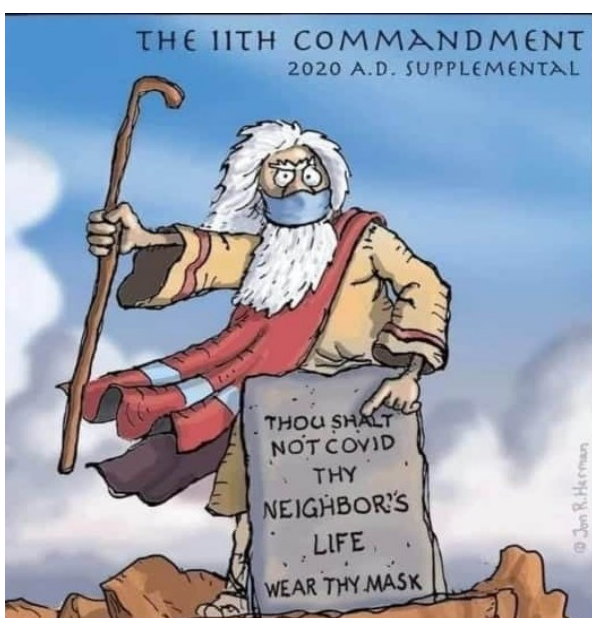
A person born in 1995, who today is 25 years old, thinks it's the end of the world when their Amazon package takes more than three days to arrive or when they doesn't get more than 15 "likes" for their photo posted on Facebook or Instagram...

In 2020, many of us live in comfort, have access to several sources of entertainment at home, and can, thanks to government aid, peacefully survive a new pandemic.

But people are complaining because for several weeks or months they have had to stay confined to their homes. Yet they have electricity, phone, food, hot water and a roof on their heads.

None of this once existed. But humanity survived much more serious circumstances and never lost their joy of living. And for days we have been complaining because we have to wear masks to get into supermarkets, shop, public transport...

Maybe it's time to be less selfish, stop complaining and cry.





Mizen Head to Malin Head

The corona virus has impacted many fund raising activities and community events this year. The Rathmichael Parish and School Fete, along with many other fund raising events, have been postponed, which means that vital funds cannot be raised in the usual way.

Therefore, I have decided to challenge myself to cycle from Mizen Head to Malin Head in five days, covering 700 kilometres on the 3rd August. Funds raised will go to Rathmichael Parish and school and other charities.

Crawford Kidd

To support Crawford while he does this fantastic cycle - people can donate at

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/mizen-head-to-malin-head>

Or

***Donations (marked Cycle) can be sent to Mrs. Lily Byrne, Hon Treasurer,
Rathmichael Parish, Old Conagh Cottage, Thornhill Road, Bray, Co. Dublin, A98 X2E7***

Have a safe journey Crawford - we will keep you in our thoughts and in our prayers as you go on your way.



RATHMICHAEL PARISH PICNIC



You are invited to a Family Parish Picnic
on the lawn at the Rectory at 12 noon on
Sunday 16th August after the morning Service.

Teas/Coffee/Ice Cream will be served

Because of Covid restrictions - please bring your own food

We look forward to seeing you there!