

Parishes of Swords Clonmethan
Kilsallaghan Donabate and Lusk
Newsletter April 2020



HAPPY EASTER

Notes from the Rector

Easter Vestry Meetings

In a change to the advertised dates, the Easter Vestry meetings have been postponed to May.

Swords and Kilsallaghan Easter Vestry Meeting will take place on Tuesday the 12th of May at 8pm in the Old Borough School, Swords.

Donabate and Lusk Easter Vestry will take place on Wednesday the 13th of May at 8pm in Saint Patrick's Church, Donabate. A meeting about the Fete will take place beforehand in the same location, starting at 7pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend and every registered vestryperson is entitled to vote. Please note that these dates are under review, so if you wish, please confirm by ringing the Rector on 01 895 6747 before attending. Thank you for your understanding.

Confirmation 2020

Confirmation classes commenced on Tuesday the 3rd March at the Rectory in Swords. Fourteen candidates were attending the classes, as they prepared to be confirmed along with candidates from Malahide, Balbriggan, Skerries and Rush by the Archbishop on Saturday the 2nd of May in Saint Columba's Church, Swords.

However, due to the coronavirus situation, confirmation classes have now been suspended for the time being, and the planned confirmation service date is under review.

Please keep in your prayers our candidates Christian Coyle, Josh Kennedy, Ruby Barnes, Zoe Cox, Ella Barry, Chelsea Gozie, Molly Kingston, Rachel Foley, Olivia Baker, Harry Goodwin, Chidubem Uzbegbu, Ryan Ennis, Ellen O'Leary, and Rachel Blake.

Women's World Day of Prayer 2020

The Women's World Day of Prayer service took place on Friday 6th March at 7.30pm in Saint Patrick's Church Donabate. *Rise - Take up your mat and walk!* was the theme and the liturgy was prepared by the women of Zimbabwe. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion and we thank our Lay Reader, Addy Patterson, and the ladies of the Church for all their efforts in making it such a special and memorable occasion for the whole community of Donabate and Lusk. Special thanks goes to Mary Jones who kept everyone energised and up to date with all the preparations leading up to the service, and led the service brilliantly on the night. And thank you also to Thelma Scott who made some beautiful Zimbabwean symbols for the service. Also thanks to Brian Scott who prepared the music for the event and managed the sound system during the service, and indeed a sincere thank you to anyone who helped out in any way. Thanks also to Father George Begley, Parish Priest of Lusk Parish and Pastor Jonathan Holland from Swords Baptist Church who came along. The Swords Women's World Day of Prayer was held in Saint Finian's Roman Catholic Church, River Valley. A big thank you to all who took part and attended the service from Saint Columba's Church and especially to Eleanor McQuinn who helped out with the preparations for the event and who rallied the troops for the service. Thank you also to Canon Robert Deane and Anne Deane who came along to support this wonderful community event.

Notes from the Rector, continued

Easter Sunday

A retiring collection will take place on Easter Sunday, to raise money to help finance the post of the new Area Youth Co-ordinator, Stephen Byford, who is to commence his role shortly for the parishes in North Dublin. If you are in a position to do so, please give generously for this exciting new venture.

Church Services for the Month Ahead

All planned services for April and for Holy Week have been CANCELLED.

Pastoral Support

Contact Reverend Neal Phair by emailing nealphair@hotmail.com or calling 01 895 6747.

A Prayer in the time of Coronavirus

Almighty and All-loving God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
we pray to you through Christ the Healer
for those who suffer from the Coronavirus Covid-19
in Ireland and across the world.

We pray too for all who reach out to those who mourn the loss
of each and every person who has died as a result of contracting the disease.

Give wisdom to policymakers,
skill to healthcare professionals and researchers,
comfort to everyone in distress
and a sense of calm to us all in these days of uncertainty and distress.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord
who showed compassion to the outcast,
acceptance to the rejected
and love to those to whom no love was shown.

Amen