

Parishes of Swords Clonmethan  
Kilsallaghan Donabate and Lusk



# Newsletter

December 2017



*We wish you  
a holy, happy and blessed Christmas  
and peaceful New Year!*

## Bereavement:

We extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Noelle Dobson, following her death in Beaumont Hospital on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Noelle's funeral service was held in the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Abbeyleix, on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, and was followed by interment in the adjoining cemetery.

We also extend deepest sympathies and condolences to Robbie Coyle and his family, following the death of his mother Peg on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Peg's funeral took place on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November in the Church of St Ann, Shankill, Dublin, and was followed by cremation in Mount Jerome crematorium.

May the souls of the faithful departed, in the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory.



### The Ladies Tuesday Club:

**Fri 8th Dec: Christmas Dinner**  
in The Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords.

**Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan: Zumba**  
in the Meeting Room, Swords.

## Presents for children at Christmas:



Again, this year, children are invited to bring a Christmas present to Church for children less fortunate than themselves. The present needn't be expensive, but should be new!

And it would be all the nicer if it were wrapped up in Christmas paper, marked on the outside whether for a boy or a girl, and what age group. Please bring your present with you to one of the Carol Services, so that they can be distributed in time for Christmas.

And, in advance, a really big **"THANK YOU"** from those who will receive them.



## Carol Services 2017:



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December: 3.00pm Kilsallaghan;**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December: 10.30am Donabate;**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December: 4.00pm Swords.**



Mulled Wine and mince-pies afterwards in both Donabate and Swords!  
Donations of mince pies most welcome ... please!

There'll be many friends from the wider community there – and we hope we'll see you there too!

## Old Borough National School:

The school's Carol Service will take place on Friday 22nd December at 10.30am in St. Columba's Church. We extend an invitation to grandparents, minders, past pupils and parishioners to come and join us.

Refreshments will be served in the Hall afterwards.

## Christmas 2017:

### Christmas Eve (Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec):

10.00am Sunday Club Nativity Play, Donabate;

11.30pm Holy Communion, Swords.

### Christmas Day (Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec):

10.00am Holy Communion, Donabate;

11.30am Holy Communion, Swords;

1.00pm Holy Communion, Kilsallaghan.



## Register of Vestrymen:

Each year, at the January meetings of Swords and Donabate Select Vestries, the Register of Vestrymen for both parishes are revised and updated.

One benefit of being on the register is that you have a vote when it comes to the election of the Select Vestry and who serves on it, which election happens each year at the Easter General Vestry.

Another benefit is that you are also eligible to let your name go forward for election and to serve on the Select Vestry (a duty each parishioner should positively consider).

If any parishioners would like their name to be added to the register next January, please contact the Churchwardens or the Rector as soon as possible about registration, and request a registration form for completion.

## Being a regular contributor:

Regular financial giving to your parish will help to ensure it can continue in its own entity and remain a viable unit, paying its way, and that it ought not to be in danger of having to be amalgamated with another parish. And by 'regular' is meant 'weekly' or 'monthly' financial instalments of how much you plan to give in any given year.

Organising a Standing Order through your Bank or using the Freewill Envelopes scheme, has an added two-fold benefit for your parish:

- (1) the Select Vestry can make more accurate estimates of income for the year, thus helping with cash-flow and budgeting; ... and
- (2) if your contribution amounts to over €250.00 in the year, the parish can claim tax relief on the amount.

Both Select Vestries encourage all parishioners to play their full financial part in running the parish, and invite you to contact the Churchwardens and/or Treasurers to put arrangements in place for you — they'll be glad to give you more details.

## Church Services in December 2017

<b>Date</b>	<b>Donabate</b>	<b>Swords</b>	<b>Kilsallaghan</b>
<b>Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b> <i>The First Sunday of Advent</i>	10.00am Morning Prayer + Donabate Sunday Club	11.30am Holy Communion	_ _ _ _ _
<b>Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <i>The Second Sunday of Advent</i>	10.00am Holy Communion	11.30am Morning Prayer + Swords Sunday Club	<b>** 3.00pm **</b> <b>Kilsallaghan</b> <b>Carol Service</b>
<b>Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <i>The Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>** 10.30am **</b> <b>Donabate</b> <b>Carol Service</b>	<b>** 4.00pm **</b> <b>Swords</b> <b>Carol Service</b>	_ _ _ _ _
<b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <i>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	10.00am Sunday Club Nativity Play	<b>** 11.30pm **</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	_ _ _ _ _
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <i>Christmas Day</i>	10.00am Holy Communion	11.30am Holy Communion	1.00pm Holy Communion
<b>Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Dec</b> <i>The First Sunday of Christmas</i>	10.00am Family service	11.30am Family Service	_ _ _ _ _
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Jan</b> <i>The First Sunday of Epiphany</i>	10.00am Morning Prayer + Donabate Sunday Club	11.30am Holy Communion	_ _ _ _ _

### **Donabate Development Project:**

Donabate Select Vestry has been working on a development project which involves the sale of a piece of land at the western end of the church field with planning permission for four houses. The proceeds will be used to build a new hall at the eastern end, also for necessary repairs to the church and graveyard, and for future maintenance purposes.

Before submission of the planning application, there will be a meeting in the church in Donabate on Thursday, 7th December, at 8pm, at which the plans will be presented to parishioners and neighbours. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance and, if there are any questions in the meantime, please feel free to call Albert Pratt on 087-9079603.

# Housing Appeal for Refugees in our Country

To all clergy in United Dioceses, Secretaries of Select Vestries, all Principals of Primary and Secondary Schools in United Diocese, University Chaplains:-

- Last autumn, I made an initial appeal to launch the Diocesan Housing Appeal for Refugees in our country. I now wish to record my very sincere thanks indeed to all who have so far responded to this Diocesan appeal in a generous manner. Our aim with this appeal has been to raise €100,000 over this year and for each of the next two years, making for a €300,000 total figure.
- This Project is being carried through in partnership with the Irish Refugee Council (IRC), and the Association of Missionaries and Religious in Ireland (AMRI). AMRI has been making available to the IRC several of its properties. All these properties are requiring very substantial modernisation, updating and renovation, in order to make them suitable for new and permanent accommodation. This is where funds raised are being directed. IRC is our country's only N.G.O. state agency.
- AMRI'S very generous transfer of their properties has two conditions attached. First, that this new accommodation is to be made available to support our Government's accommodation initiative for Syrian refugees coming to Ireland. And, secondly, to provide first-time accommodation for some of the very many people, long awaiting housing in our Reception centres, and of whom a third are children. At present, about 400 people living in Direct Provision already have full refugee status, but cannot leave, because of the wider housing crisis.
- I can report that the very first housing tranche of this specific Project is now on course to seeing over forty people being newly accommodated by IRC for the very first time. This is greatly encouraging.
- It is particularly important to stress that by supporting this Project, this directly helps the much larger challenge here of the Homelessness crisis itself. This Project's sizeable new accommodation provision means that our own existing and esteemed homeless services and state agencies are not having even further pressure being added to the very heavy demands already being imposed upon them. This specific Project, then, has positive knock-on benefits both ways.
- As it progresses this Project, IRC demonstrates high professional standards and expertise. Its work is intensive, painstaking and often one to one. A whole

range of holistic supports is required in enabling refugees to make this whole transition in to first time housing. The Project's beneficiaries are linked up to various state agencies by IRC, along with helping access to English language classes, psychosocial, cultural and integration supports, and having qualifications accredited in Ireland. The over-riding aim of this necessary process is the goal of further education (if required), full time employment and civic and social integration.

- Regarding the monies raised in the United Dioceses so far this year, it is very encouraging to read various reports in the 'Church Review' of local initiatives such as sponsored cycles and walks, sales of work, music concerts, coffee mornings and bring and buys, as well as direct giving and special collections.

The success of this Project very much depends on the generosity of people within the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough as it is our specific response to a nation-wide and indeed international crisis. I am very proud of the support that has been given thus far. I appreciate the generosity shown on all sides and I encourage everyone to consider a practical way in which you and your community might be involved. You will all soon be planning initiatives for Advent and Christmas. Why not make this Project your priority for 2017? As well as thinking within your parish, you may be able to influence planning for collections at events such as Carol Services in National Schools and Secondary Schools.

Christmas is about the coming of God to earth and we rightly celebrate this wondrous event. Equally wondrous is the statement of Jesus at the end of St Matthew's Gospel: When I was a stranger, you took me into your home (St Matthew 25.35). The Housing Appeal has to do with homes for those who have neither house nor home. It touches the heart of every one of you.

Please make your donation preferably by:

**Electronic Transfer:**

Bank of Ireland College Green

IBAN: IE50BOFI90001769354878

*(please indicate the funds are for the 'Housing Appeal')*

or cheques can be made payable to 'Diocesan Funds of Dublin & Glendalough' with a note attached indicating the funds are for the 'Housing Appeal'.

*The Most Reverend Dr Michael Jackson.*

*Archbishop of Dublin and Bishop of Glendalough.*

October 2017

Old Borough PTA

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER

12pm - 3pm

OLD BOROUGH SCHOOL

Church Road Swords

ADMISSION

Adults €2 each

Kids go free!

Entrance through the  
MAIN school doors



*Something for  
all the family!*

# **JUMBLE COLLECTION**

**in aid of**

**St Columba's Church**

**Each Saturday in January  
from 11am till 2pm.**

***Please bring jumble bags of  
clothes, etc.  
to St. Columba's Church –  
(as drop-off point)***

***Your help in this venture  
will be greatly appreciated.***