

Parishes of Donabate and Lusk with Swords Clonmethan & Kilsallaghan Newsletter February 2024

An Open Letter from the Rural Dean

My Dear Friends in Saint Columba's, Saint Patrick's and Saint David's, Greetings.

It was so heartening to see such a great turnout at the recent joint parish meeting in Swords with the Archbishop, Archdeacon, and myself as Rural Dean. Thank you to all who contributed and all who attended.

I want to commend you all on how you are pulling together as a team during this difficult and uncertain time. I know so many people are working hard and making an extra effort to ensure that the parishes continue to run smoothly while the Rector is on sick leave. I will do everything I can to support you in this so feel free to contact me if I can help or advise at any time.

As conveyed at the meeting, revised arrangements for cover are coming into effect from 1st February. The Rev. Yvonne Ginnelly will be presiding at Holy Communion services on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. David Snow, with assistance from Stephen Vincent and Niall Minto, will be looking after the non-sacramental services on the first and third Sundays of the month - I am indebted to them all, and to the Rev. Dr. Norman Gamble for his assistance from June to January.

I will be chairing the Select Vestry meetings on a monthly basis, alternating between Swords/Kilsallaghan and Donabate. I will also be on call for pastoral emergencies and can be contacted on 087 9091561 or by emailing revlesleyrobinson@gmail.com.

Confirmation preparation for candidates from this group will be provided in Malahide by the Rev. Canon. David Gillespie; the service of Confirmation will be in Saint Andrew's Church, Malahide on Saturday 4th May at 3pm. Please contact Canon Gillespie at davidgillespie038@gmail.com with the names of anyone who wishes to be Confirmed this year.

Here is the service schedule for February:

Sunday 4th: MP Donabate 10am; Family Service Swords 11.30am

Sunday 11th: HC Donabate 10am; HC Swords 11.30am; Praise & Pizza, School Hall, 6pm

Sunday 18th: Family Service Donabate 10am; MP Swords 11.30am

Sunday 25th: HC Donabate 10am; HC Swords 11.30am; HC Kilsallaghan 11.30am; and
Praise & Pizza, School Hall, 6pm

At the meeting on 8th January, concerns were raised from the floor about the small attendances at some services in the group. Can I urge you all with a rally cry to come together to worship and encourage one another as much as possible on Sunday mornings: this has perhaps never been more important than it is at present - you are stronger together!

Please continue to pray for your Rector, his family and your parish, and be assured of my prayers also.

Yours in Christ,

Lesley

Rev. Canon Lesley Robinson
Rural Dean of Fingal

Church Review

For those who are in receipt of the above magazine, the annual subscription of €40 is now due. If you wish to take out a subscription or have any questions, contact Eric Wolfe on 086 179 8747.

Vestry Persons' Register

The Register is traditionally updated at the beginning of the year, so if you have an amendment you want to make or you wish to be added, contact Brian Scott on brian.scott1000@gmail.com or Eric Hughes on eric.hughes@dcu.ie.