

Parishes of Swords Clonmethan  
Kilsallaghan Donabate and Lusk  
Newsletter June 2019

**Join Us for  
Fellowship  
and Food!**



*The Rectory Garden  
Sunday, 23rd June*

(immediately following the Family Service)

**Bring your own Picnic, OR**

**Enjoy Barbecued Sausages and  
Burgers ~ €3p.p./€10 per family**



**Squash for the Kids, and  
Ice Creams for Everyone!**

To put your name ~~in the pot~~  
on the BBQ grill 😊 please contact  
Stephen Vincent (086 8227987)  
by Friday, 21st June

*Bring your own drinks  
and picnic rug!*

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### **A Letter from Rector Neal Phair**

A huge thank you for your warm welcome to beautiful North County Dublin! Lucy, Emily, Henry and I left Castleblayney in County Monaghan on the 24<sup>th</sup> April after a few lorry loads of our furniture etc. were already unloaded in Swords, so it was great we had something to sit on when we arrived and something to lie on, on the first night! I'd like to thank Billy Goodwin who has resolved and continues to help us with all the things we needed sorted after we moved in. Also thanks to Niall Minto and Stephen Vincent who, along with Billy got the Rectory ready for us to move into. We have now everything unpacked and are settling in well in the Rectory. The Institution service in Swords Church was a really fabulous night. How wonderful everything looked, sounded and tasted! - the grounds, the interior of the church, the church music, and all that delicious food in the parish halls afterwards etc. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make the evening a night to remember.

Now I have had my second round of services around the parishes and again everyone has been so friendly and welcoming. Emily and Henry are also settling in well in the Old Borough School and have made lots of new friends.

Reflecting on the last number of weeks, it has been a real emotional roller coaster ride, saying goodbye to everyone in the Ballybay Group of Parishes and then being welcomed so warmly here. My call to be your new Incumbent would not have been possible except for the hard work and dedicated ministry of so many people – the Parish and Diocesan Nominators and also Archbishop Jackson whom I would like to thank in particular for all his support and encouragement. Thank you also to Reverend Lesley Robinson for arranging the Institution service and to Archdeacon Pierpoint for preparing our young people for the Confirmation Service and for chairing all the meetings during the vacancy.

We worship a living God, and the outcome of this process has been aided and inspired by the work of the Holy Spirit. We have listened and responded to the promptings of this creating, crucified and constant God – Together may we continue to do so.

### **A Date for your Diary**

The legendary Donabate Fete will be held on Saturday the 13th July.

### **Parish Registers - Bereavement**

Alison Mary Baker of the Naul passed away peacefully in the presence of her family on May 21st. Having been born in 1919, she was in her 100th year. She was the daughter of the late T.K. and Mary Baker and sister of the late Dodo, Pidgie, June and Harry. She will be fondly remembered by her nieces and nephews Jeanne, Susan, Patricia, Judy, Nicola, David, and John, sister-in-law Alice, nieces and nephews-in-law, grand nieces and grand nephews and a large circle of good friends, carers and neighbours. Her funeral service was held in Saint Patrick's church in Donabate on May 24th and the interment took place in Clonmethan churchyard. May she rest in peace.

## **Report on the Institution by Lynn Glanville, Diocesan Communications Officer**

There was standing room only in Saint Columba's Church in Swords on Wednesday May the 1st, as Reverend Neal Phair was instituted as incumbent of the parishes of Swords, Clonmethan and Kilsallaghan with Donabate and Lusk by Archbishop Michael Jackson. Neal was joined in the congregation by his wife and children, as well as family, friends, and parishioners from the Ballybay Group of Parishes. Canon Pat McHugh preached about the many ways in which Neal is suited to the challenge of his new ministry, including his respectful engagement with all God's people. "We give thanks for those prophetic individuals who challenge us to move beyond our doubts to see the Father."

Archbishop Jackson said it was a great pleasure to gather in the historic Saint Columba's Church to welcome Neal and family, and join parishioners for a new beginning for the parishes. He thanked everyone who had sustained continuity of worship in the parishes following the previous incumbent's retirement last year, especially Ken and Addy. Fr Connolly from Donabate and Pastor Hegarty from Swords also welcomed Neal, looking forward to building on already strong local ecumenical relations. Billy Goodwin, representing Swords and Kilsallaghan, welcomed Neal. While two parishes with two separate vestries, they were all one happy family, and he looked forward to working together. Brian Scott, representing Donabate and Lusk, added their good wishes, saying that Donabate is committed to a project to build a new parish hall. He hoped that Neal would put an emphasis on both the spiritual and the material needs of the parish.

The new Rector thanked everyone from near and far for joining him for the occasion, his wife Lucy and their children Emily and Henry for their support, and the Archdeacon and Archbishop for their encouragement. "It was lovely to be back in Dublin and Glendalough and I look forward to ministry in this beautiful part of North County Dublin and to building the Kingdom of God in the parishes."



Reverend Neal Phair (right) with his wife Doctor Lucy Jessop and their children, and Archbishop Michael Jackson (centre).





During the Institution service.



Ian Falkiner, Billy Goodwin, Reverend Stephen Farrell, Reverend Lesley Robinson, Archbishop Michael Jackson, Reverend Neal Phair (Rector), Canon Pat McHugh, Archdeacon David Pierpoint, Dean William Morton, Albert Pratt and Brian Scott.

**Parish of Donabate and Lusk make a Presentation  
to Reverend Ken Sherwood and his wife Norma**

The Parish of Donabate and Lusk were delighted to present Reverend Ken Sherwood and his wife Norma with a gift from the parish in recognition for their contribution during the recent vacancy. Neither Ken nor Norma were strangers to Donabate before the vacancy and we hope that they will continue to visit us into the future.



Ken and Norma Sherwood with young parishioners, Daniel and Andrew Minto.



## Notes From 7th Dublin Company Boys' Brigade by Alan Privett



Our 128th Anniversary Display took place recently, on the 11th May, in the Old Borough School, Swords. We are pleased that it was well attended by Parents, Friends, and Supporters of the Company. Our Chief Guests on the night were the President of the BB in the Republic of Ireland, Mr Brian Weekes, and his wife Phil.

Displays are undoubtedly hard work, but in 7th Company, a fantastic set of Boys and Leaders made it seem almost easy! A packed programme included: - Marching through the Ages (with some different “takes” on marching!). The Creation Story was told in song by Anchors, and the BB Badge System was presented by Junior Section over the microphones. There were of course plenty of our usual PE items, including a “Double Trampoline” item from Junior Section and a newly revived Parallel Bars item from Company/Senior Section, with our Anchor Section not being left out with their “Organised Chaos” (Games) and “Hop, Skip and Jump” items. There was also that perennial favourite “The Hogan Challenge”. This year, for the first time in several years, the Past Members came top of the heap (literally!). Fun for all.

One of the highlights of the evening was when Mr Brian Weekes (ROI President) presented four Boys with The President's Badge. Sgt. Matthew Good, Sgt. Adam Smith, Cpl. Joshua Denner, and Cpl. Scott Crawte, all now “President's Men”, are each most worthy of gaining the Badge, and are a credit to their families, their Company, and themselves.

A “Transfer Ceremony” took place after the Prize Giving, with Ethan McCrae and Derry Maguire being promoted from Anchors to the Junior Section, and Alex Gunn being promoted from Junior Section to Company/Senior Section.

A “Transfer Ceremony” of a different kind also took place when the Captain, Alan Privett, announced that he was handing over the Captaincy to Stephen Vincent, with the unanimous approval of the Leadership Team. Alan will remain on the Leadership Team. We thank Stephen very much for accepting this role of Captaincy and can assure him of every possible support from the Team, and, we are sure, from the several Parishes where the 7th Company operates. Stephen thanked Alan for his past Captain(ies), which covered a total of 21 years, and said he was honoured to be taking over the Captaincy of a great Company. God's Blessing on your Captaincy, Stephen.

The Display over, the Company will take a “breather” before launching into a Summer Programme which will include such activities as “Footgolf”, Hikes, a trip to Ireland's Eye, “Multi Games” evenings in St Anne's and Malahide Parks, and of course, the eternal favourite – Crab Fishing off Malahide Slipway! It will be no time until Stephen and his Leader Team are getting down to planning the 2019/20 Session restart in September!

### **Church Services**

Saint Patrick's, Donabate:	Every Sunday at 10am
Saint David's, Kilsallaghan:	On the second and fourth Sundays, at 11.30am
Saint Columba's, Swords:	Every Sunday at 11.30am

### **Quote of the Month**

