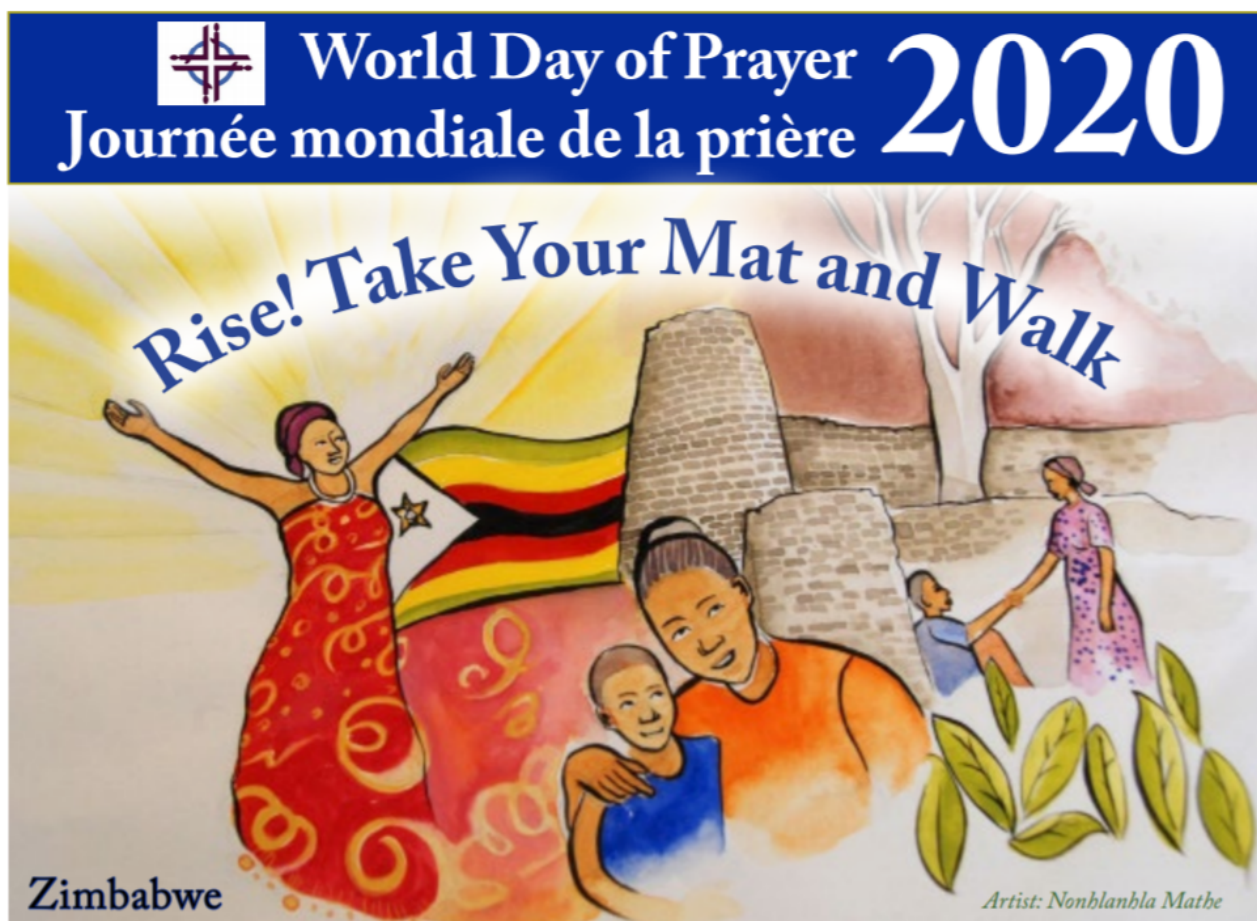


Parishes of Swords Clonmethan Kilsallaghan Donabate and Lusk Newsletter March 2020



The invitation is out for everyone - men, women, and children of all ages - to join the 2020 World Day of Prayer as we celebrate the theme: *Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk*. The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. Zimbabwe, one of the more southern countries in Africa, has prepared the service this year. We are encouraged to reflect on the challenges this republic has encountered during independence steps over the last sixty years. The writing team has shared the injustice obstacles that the women of Zimbabwe have met, and the hopes they have for the future. These experiences unite us all in prayer and solidarity. Each service is followed by refreshments, and everyone's welcome.

Date & Time	Venue	Contact
Friday 6 th March 7.30pm	Saint Patrick's CofI Church, Donabate	Mary 087 154 2059
Friday 6 th March 7.30pm	Saint Finian's Roman Catholic Church, River Valley, Swords	Eleanor 086 328 5780

Notes from the Rector

Swords Parish Table Quiz

Swords Parish Table Quiz took place in the main Parish Hall on Friday the 7th of February at 8pm. We are indebted to Derek Evans, a parishioner of Swords, who very kindly ran and prepared the Table Quiz. The evening was a tremendous success raising 1,226 euros on the night. All who came along took a beverage and nibbles of their choice and it was a very enjoyable evening indeed. Thank you to all who supported the event and helped out in any way and all those who donated so many spot prizes and items to be auctioned on the night. Our thanks again to Derek, his wife Marjorie, and the wider Evans family who put so much effort into the Parish fundraiser.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service this year took place in Saint Columba's Church, Swords, on Wednesday the 23rd of January. Father Michael Carey from Saint Colmcille's, and Father Des Doyle from Our Lady's Church (Dublin Airport) robed out for the occasion and participated on the evening along with Addy Patterson and the Rector. Apologies were received from Father Paul Thornton from Saint Cronan's. A good number of parishioners from all the parishes around Swords and beyond came along and stayed for refreshments afterwards. This year's liturgy came from the Churches in Malta and Gozo, and the theme was Unusual Kindness. The Rector preached the sermon for the occasion and it was a great time of fellowship for all who celebrated this year's Christian Unity Service.

Confirmation 2020

Confirmation classes will commence on Tuesday the 3rd of March at 7pm in the Rectory. The confirmation service will take place this year in Saint Columba's Church in Swords on Saturday the 2nd of May at 3.30pm. Please contact the Rector if you require further details.

Get Well Soon

Best wishes and our prayers go to our lay minister, Addy Patterson, who has just been released from hospital. May the healing hand of God continue to descend upon you.

Café Church

Café Church will next take place on Sunday the 15th March at 6.30pm. Café Church is a very informal event which is always held in the large hall in the Parish Hall complex above the school in Swords. Hot food is provided e.g. burgers or hot dogs, and refreshments and there are lots of tea/coffee and food for parents, and there will be activities like table tennis, arts and crafts, discussion etc. Everyone is very welcome!

7TH DUBLIN COMPANY BB
SOCIAL EVENING

BANGERS
and
DARTS



AN EVENING OF FAMILY FUN FOR ALL AGES!
RAFFLE ON THE NIGHT
FOOD PROVIDED!
BOOKING ESSENTIAL WITH A BB LEADER, OR
VIA SEVENDUBLIN@GMAIL.COM

7-9PM, SATURDAY 7TH
MARCH 2020

COOLOCK HALL, TONLEEGEE ROAD

ADULTS - €5
CHILDREN - €2.50

THE BOYS⁷
BRIGADE 
> the adventure begins here

Old Borough School PTA



SPRING FUN FAIR

Saturday • 28th March • 12 - 3pm
 Old Borough School
 Church Road • Swords
 Admission: adults €2 • kids go free!

Details of
STALLS & ACTIVITIES
 coming soon!

 Keep an eye on our Facebook page:
 Old Borough National School PTA

We're putting the **FUN** into our Spring Fair!

Refreshments in Donabate

On the third Sunday of the month, after the Family Service, Donabate are having a cup of tea and refreshments at the back of the church. We have started a rota, and all is supplied. We just need some willing hands once a month to serve and to tidy away.

It is also an opportunity for those helping out to get to know others in our church and for us all to put names to faces.

In addition to the refreshments after the Family Service, Jean Elleker has kindly extended a standing invitation to the Jones Garden Centre coffee shop each week after church in Donabate, for those who wish to join her.



Wednesday Ecumenical Lenten Evenings

Our neighbouring United Parishes of Malahide, Portmarnock, and Saint Doulagh's are running a series of talks during Lent as follows. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Wednesday 4th March in Saint Anne's Church Portmarnock at 7.30pm

Speaker: Ms Breda Corr, General Secretary of the Association of Boards of Management of Special Needs Schools, on the subject of helping children achieve their potential.

Wednesday 11th March in Saint Sylvester's Church Malahide at 7.30pm

Speaker: Ms Mary Kirk, Saint Sylvester's Parish Worker, on the subject of climate justice.

Wednesday 18th March in Malahide Presbyterian Church at 7.30pm

Speaker: Rev Trevor Johnston, Rector of All Saints' Church, University Avenue, Belfast.

Wednesday 25th March in Saint Andrew's Church Malahide at 7.30pm

Speaker: Fr Peter McVerry, Irish Jesuit and homelessness activist, on the subject of housing and justice.

Wednesday 1st April in Seabury Church at 7.30pm. Details to be announced.

Church of Ireland Guidance in Relation to Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19)

It's best to stay at home if you feel ill, or are displaying influenza-like symptoms. The symptoms to be aware of in the case of the coronavirus include cough, shortness of breath, difficulty in breathing, and fever. For medical advice, call your GP or if you don't have a GP, call 999 or 112. Do not come to church services until you feel well.

Shaking hands on greeting and departure at services and gatherings should be suspended.

Physical interaction during services, including during the Sign of Peace, should be suspended. Carry out an alternative Sign of Peace that does not involve hand contact (e.g. a smile, nod or bow) if so wished.

Observe good hand and good general hygiene - thorough handwashing with soap or sanitisers, and safe disposal of tissues.

If you have influenza-type symptoms, please don't call the clergy to request pastoral visitation, but you can certainly call the clergy for pastoral support, especially in the case of parishioners who are unable to attend church services. This support should be provided by telephone or online (e.g. via Skype).

Everyone administering Holy Communion should wash their hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitiser gel before beginning. Holy Communion should be administered only in one kind (i.e. bread) and placed into the hands only and not onto the tongue. Only the celebrant should drink from the chalice. Holy Communion is normally received in both kinds separately - bread and wine - but may be received in either kind, and those who are incapable of receiving the sacrament are to be assured that they are by faith partakers of the body and blood of Christ and of the benefits He conveys to us by them (Book of Common Prayer, p. 440).

Please remember in your prayers all those affected by the coronavirus.

Lectio Divina

Our next Lectio Divina will be held on Wednesday the 25th of March in Eleanor McQuinn's home in Swords, from 8.30 to 9.15pm. Come along and spend some time reflecting on the Gospel for the following Sunday. Please contact Eleanor on 086 328 5780 if you wish to attend. Here's a link to an online Lenten Lectio Divina resource which people might find useful.

www.evangelisation.ie/2019/03/04/living-word-parish-resource-for-lectio-divina/

Church Services

Date	Donabate	Swords	Kilsallaghan
Sunday 1 st March (Lent 1)	10am Morning Prayer & ** Sunday Club **	11.30am Holy Communion	---
Friday 6 th March (World Day of Prayer)	7.30pm World Day of Prayer Service	7.30pm ** World Day of Prayer Service in Saint Finian's Church, River Valley **	---
Sunday 8 th March (Lent 2)	10am Holy Communion	11.30am Morning Prayer & ** Sunday Club **	11.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 15 th March (Lent 3)	10am Family Service	11.30am Holy Communion 6.30pm ** Café Church in the Hall **	---
Sunday 22 nd March (Lent 4)	10am Holy Communion	11.30am Family Service	11.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 29 th March (Lent 5)	10am Morning Prayer	11.30am Morning Prayer	---

Quote of the Month

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many people with disabilities - blind, lame, and paralysed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

- John 5, verses 2 to 9