

Parishes of Donabate and Lusk with Swords Clonmethan & Kilsallaghan
Newsletter March 2025

BRIAN BORU'S WAKE

Saturday
26th April
8pm



Following the Battle of Clontarf in 1014, the body of the High King of Ireland was brought to Swords Abbey to be waked, at the spot where St Columba's Church now stands.

Celebrate the life of Ireland's greatest High King through music. Join us for an evening of Celtic entertainment with singers, pipers and harpists in a unique and historic setting.

St Columba's Church Swords
Tickets €20 at [eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie)




HOSTED BY
THE FRIENDS OF
ST COLUMBA'S

WITH SUPPORT FROM
Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



Click the link below to get your tickets! Or search Brian Boru at www.eventbrite.ie
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brian-borus-wake-tickets-1265197693359>

Praise 'n Pizza



Parishes of Swords
Donabate and Kilsallaghan

An Evening Family Service

Prayers + Songs + Talk + Activity* + PIZZA!

a.k.a. hymns!

*optional for parents! ☺

Sunday 9th March

Old Borough
School Hall

| 6:00pm

(finished by
7:30pm-ish)

EVERYONE is very welcome!



Anglican Communion Science Commission

The Anglican Communion Science Commission (ACSC), formally launched at the Lambeth Conference in 2022, exists to celebrate science as a God-given resource and to promote collaboration between faith and science communities for the betterment of people and the planet. More information can be found on the Anglican Communion website (<https://www.anglicancommunion.org/community/commissions/anglican-communion-science-commission.aspx>)

Each province has been tasked to take forward an action plan to develop the engagement of Science and Faith and the bishops are looking at forming a support/advisory group comprising scientists and/or theologians who are members of the Church of Ireland and would be interested in exploring this area. We have been asked to give the names and email contact details of those interested to the Bishop of Clogher for him to follow up.

Are you interested, willing and available to join this group? If so, can you please email Andrea at reachandrea@gmail.com with your name and contact details (by Wednesday 5th March), to pass onto Bishop Ian Ellis.

Thank you!

CONFIRMATION UPDATE

Dear Parents,

There will be a Service of Confirmation in *Saint Columba's, Swords* (note the change to the original location) on Sunday 4th May at 11.30am.

Confirmation preparation classes (at which candidates from the Holmpatrick group will also be present) will be held in Swords on the following days (the venue is to be confirmed soon):

Saturday 5th April: 11am-12.30pm

Saturday 12th April: 11am-12.30pm

Saturday 26th April: 11am-12.30pm

Parents should attend for the first 15 minutes of the first class, please.

I look forward to meeting you all and sharing this exciting journey with you and your children.

Best wishes,

Lesley Robinson

Rev. Canon Lesley Robinson
Rector, Clontarf Parish, Church of Saint John the Baptist
Rural Dean of Fingal

For any queries, please call or email

087 9091561

revlesleyrobinson@gmail.com



World Day of Prayer Service 2025

A programme written by the Women of the Cook Islands

This year's theme is "I made you wonderful"

Saint Patrick's Church, Donabate

Sunday the 9th of March at 10 a.m.



The 2025 WDP program invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God.

When we can receive this profound truth, everything in our life changes and we begin to radiate and shine from within. We also learn how to treat every other person as made wonderful by God.

Too often, women and girls have been silenced and oppressed, making this upcoming theme from WDP Cook Islands particularly relevant. The message that we, as women and girls, are "fearfully and wonderfully" made in the image of God reinforces our movement's support of women in expressing their faith and speaking about their lives in prayer and worship before God and in community.

The Worship Service invites us to notice aspects of our divinely created bodies that we often take for granted.

ALL WELCOME!

Additionally, there's a World Day of Prayer service in Saint Cronan's Church, Brackenstown, Swords, on the 7th of March at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to attend either of these services or both.



JEAN ELLERKER AND DONABATE & LUSK PARISH
PRESENT

An Afternoon Tea Party

Tea and scones at the Shoreline Hotel,
Donabate on 12th April at 2.30pm

**€10 PER PERSON. PLEASE NOTE THAT
PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL. PLEASE
CALL JEAN ON 086 233 1300 BY THE 4TH
OF APRIL TO BOOK. ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Baptism



Welcome to Dylan who was baptised in Saint Columba's Church, Swords on February 9th. Here he is seen in the arms of his proud parents, Amy and Paul.

On the left of the picture are Reverend Yvonne Ginnelly and trainee lay minister Stephen Vincent, and on the right is trainee lay reader Sarah Eickhoff, who with a large congregation were happy to welcome Dylan to his new church family.

May God bless and guide his parents and godparents as they help Dylan take his first steps on the journey of faith.

Yvonne Packer



Our organist Yvonne Packer is seen here with, from right to left, Churchwarden Barbara Scanlan, trainee lay minister Stephen Vincent, and Reverend Yvonne Ginnelly.

We are very lucky to have an organist, not to mention one whose great talent and warmth of personality enriches the worship and community life of the parishes.

We are grateful for Yvonne's many years of devoted service.

On Sunday 26th January the congregation of Saint Columba's marked this by presenting our organist Yvonne with a bouquet of flowers, and giving her a small token of our appreciation. And not one but two standing ovations!

World Vision



Lay Minister David Snow welcomed his fellow lay minister Ziva Newman and her crack team of activists to the parishes in January to tell us about the work of World Vision Ireland.

World Vision is a charity which arranges for children in some of the most disadvantaged parts of the world to be sponsored along with their communities.

If you'd like to find out more about World Vision and about sponsoring a child, please visit www.worldvision.ie.

Church Services for the Month Ahead

Sunday the 2nd of March

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Morning Prayer
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Morning Prayer

Sunday the 9th of March

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Holy Communion
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Holy Communion
6 p.m.	Swords	Praise 'n' Pizza in the hall

Sunday the 16th of March

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Morning Prayer
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Morning Prayer

Sunday the 23rd of March

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Holy Communion
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Holy Communion
1 p.m.	Saint David's Kilsallaghan	Holy Communion

Sunday the 30th of March

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Morning Prayer
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Morning Prayer

And finally...

Small Kindnesses

A poem by Danusha Laméris

I've been thinking about the way, when you walk
down a crowded aisle, people pull in their legs
to let you by. Or how strangers still say "bless you"
when someone sneezes, a leftover
from the Bubonic plague. "Don't die," we are saying.
And sometimes, when you spill lemons
from your grocery bag, someone else will help you
pick them up. Mostly, we don't want to harm each other.
We want to be handed our cup of coffee hot,
and to say thank you to the person handing it. To smile
at them and for them to smile back. For the waitress
to call us honey when she sets down the bowl of clam chowder,
and for the driver in the red pick-up truck to let us pass.
We have so little of each other, now. So far
from tribe and fire. Only these brief moments of exchange.
What if they are the true dwelling of the holy, these
fleeting temples we make together when we say, "Here,
have my seat," "Go ahead—you first," "I like your hat."
