



NOVEMBER!
PRAISE 'N' PIZZA

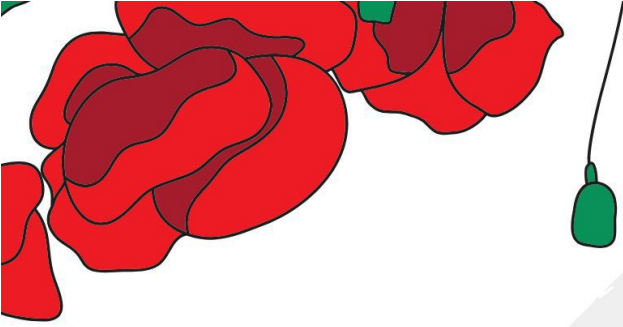
an evening FAMILY service
+ prayers
+ songs a.k.a. hymns!
+ talk
+ activity (optional for parents ;-)
and
PIZZA!

parishes of swords donabate & kilsallaghan

6.30PM → **EVERYONE is very welcome!**

Sunday November 16th Old Borough School Hall





LEST WE FORGET

Remembrance services with prayers for peace and
to commemorate the service and sacrifice of the
armed forces in times of war.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

11 a.m. Clonmethan churchyard

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9TH

10 a.m. St Patrick's Donabate

11.30 a.m. St Columba's Swords



Harvest Celebration at St Patrick's Parish, Donabate

Another year and another harvest and again, we thank the good Lord for all He has given us. St Patrick's Parish celebrated the Harvest on 12 October to a full church. The moment you walked through the front door you could smell the fresh fruit and vegetables and know it was Harvest season.

The church looked amazing, as it always does, with great thanks to Cathy Hayes for leading the charge with Kate Hender, Vanda Clayton, Kingsley and Nelson Bassey, Liz Horne, Glynis Wilcox and Thelma Scott, who prepared the church beautifully with donations from many, including Donald Henderson, Jean Ellerker, and Dorothy and Peter McMurtry who gave the two baskets in the main windows.

The service itself was celebrated jointly by Revd Yvonne Ginnelly and Niall Minto. Special mention was made for peace in Gaza and a hope that the people there will soon have the food and resources they so desperately need. In the spirit of thanksgiving and another year passing, we ended the service with a fruity pavlova to celebrate Jean Ellerker's birthday as we prepare to say goodbye to her while she embarks on a new life nearer her family.

Pet Service 2025

After a successful inaugural pet service in 2024, St Patrick's Donabate held its second celebration to honour *all creatures great and small*, and what better way to do so than with Hymn 25 - All Things Bright and Beautiful.

We had set ourselves the challenge of finding a donkey for the occasion, but alas, it wasn't to be this year as the donkeys were all resting up for Christmas... yes, I said Christmas before December!

The service was very well attended and Niall offered prayers for all pets, both those present in the church and those at home, while David concluded the service with a special blessing for the animals that were there. We're already looking forward to next year and who knows, perhaps we'll finally have that donkey!



A Bittersweet Goodbye

Jean Elleker's name has been heard many times before in both the newsletter and the Church Review. That's because Jean has been such a major part of the Parish of Donabate and Lusk, and indeed our sister Parish of Swords, Clonmethan and Kilsallaghan, for the past thirty years. In a bittersweet service to celebrate Jean and all she has done, parishioners from both parishes came together to wish her well as she moves to a new parish to be nearer her children and grandchildren.

Although David Snow had not originally been scheduled to be in St Patrick's, Donabate, he changed his plans to be there and celebrate the service along with Niall Minto, a gesture that reflected just how special Jean is to us all. A collection was made for Jean and she was presented with flowers following the reading of this poem that encapsulates our Jean.

Verse 1 – What Jean Has Done

She's the glue that binds our parish whole,
The rallying heart, the steady soul.
From fêtes to funds, she leads the cheer,
Tickets sold and spirits clear.
Church swept clean, Jones' cafe near,
Her kindness echoed, far and clear.
On Vestry seat, she takes her stand,
A guiding light, a helping hand.



Verse 2 – Who Jean Is

A proud Cork woman with warmth so wide,
A smile that lifts, a heart untied.
She asks, she listens, she truly sees,
Gives comfort soft as summer's breeze.
A hug, a laugh, a coffee shared,
Or something stronger, love declared.
Her grace, her wit, her open door,
We've all been richer, that's for sure.

Verse 3 – Our Farewell

So now you go to pastures new,
To family dear, to skies so blue.
We'll miss your spark, your gentle way,
The light you brought to every day.
Though distance grows and roads may bend,
We wish you joy, our friend of friends.
Go live this life, its blessings savour,
But remember this... you'll never be a stranger.

A Celebration of the Women of Donabate & Lusk Parish

In celebration of the many women who have shaped and continue to shape our parish, we gathered to capture their contribution in a special photograph. This photo will join our Hall of Fame in the church, a growing collection honouring those whose dedication and faith have helped make our parish what it is today. Rev. Yvonne Ginnelly was unable to be present on the day as she was serving in St Ann's on Dawson Street so we included her in a separate photo, ensuring she appears alongside her peers.

With this addition, we continue the tradition of recognising those on whose shoulders we now stand, the remarkable women, past and present, whose commitment has built and sustained our parish community.



A Special Service of Thanksgiving at St David's Kilsallaghan

A special Service of Thanksgiving took place at Saint David's Kilsallaghan on Sunday, October 5th. We were delighted to welcome The Most Reverend Archbishop Doctor Michael Jackson to celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving and bless the newly constructed Columbarium wall.

The service was led by Revd. Yvonne Ginnelly who was assisted by Diocesan Readers Doctor Niall Minto and myself, David Snow. It was wonderful to see the church crammed with parishioners and friends, all together for this double celebration.



Countless hours of work have gone into the restoration of Saint David's Church, and we are incredibly thankful for the kind assistance of the parishioners and neighbours. In particular, we appreciate the sterling work done by Fran and Ian Falkiner, Andy Anderson, and Ivan Ginnelly.

We are also most thankful to those who offered their skillset and attention to detail in perfecting the construction of the Columbarium wall.

We also received many donations and kind gifts, with a special mention for the local family, who generously provided many new furnishings for the church, including the new carpets.

The service began with a warm welcome to everyone, and Anna Gundersen opened the service with a delightful piece of music on the violin, assisted by her father on the piano. The wholehearted singing of the hymns was a testament to the full attendance. We were blessed to have Claire O'Connor playing the organ to accompany our singing.

A Special Service of Thanksgiving at St David's Kilsallaghan, continued

The Most Reverend Archbishop Dr. Michael Jackson noted that Harvest is about counting our blessings, and while we were lucky to be well fed and enjoying a visit to the bucolic countryside on a sunny day, he balanced these remarks by providing some most solemn words on Gaza, and all the devastation and destruction that the war has brought to the civilian population of Gaza since the terrorist group Hamas attacked Israel on October 7th 2023, which we have sadly witnessed on our screens since the war began.

The collection from the service will be donated by the Archbishop to benefit medical care for all affected. Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza city is supported by the Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough through their relationship with the Diocese of Jerusalem. The Archbishop, who has attended the Diocese of Jerusalem's synod in Jordan multiple times and plans to attend the 2025 synod directly after our own synod in Dublin, has visited the region to show solidarity, has also led his own United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough appeal to support reconstruction efforts in the Middle East.

The service then moved to the graveyard, where the Archbishop dedicated the newly constructed Columbarium wall, concluding with the Lord's Prayer. It is hoped that the Columbarium, offering another option of a dignified resting place, will enhance the existing facilities of the churchyard.

Plenty of photographs were taken to mark the occasion, with many smiles contained, evidencing the delightful day we all shared.

Everyone enjoyed refreshments afterwards in the Church, and most importantly, the rain stayed away.



Services & Events for the Month Ahead

Sunday 2nd November

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Morning Prayer	Niall
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Service of the Word	Eric

Saturday 8th November

11am	Clonmenthan	Remembrance Service	Niall
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Sunday 9th November - Remembrance Sunday

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Holy Communion	Yvonne & David
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Holy Communion	Yvonne & Eric

Sunday 16th November

10 a.m.	Saint Patrick's Donabate	Family Service	David
11.30 a.m.	Saint Columba's Swords	Morning Prayer	David
6.30 p.m.	Parish Hall Swords	Praise and Pizza	Eric

Sunday 23rd November

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

Sunday 30th November - First Sunday of Advent - Services with 7 short readings and hymns

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

Request for Gifts for Carechoice residents for this coming Christmas



A little advance warning that David Snow and Reverend Yvonne Ginnelly plan to hold a Christmas service in the Carechoice nursing home in Swords on December 13th at 2pm, and wish to appeal to the parishioners for contributions of gifts to be distributed at this service.

Gifts can be small such as socks, shower gel, sweets, etc. If you are in a position to chip in with a little something, that would be great.

Please write if it's for a lady or a gent on the label and bring it to church any Sunday between now and December 13th. The Church Wardens will be glad to take your items and store them so that David and Yvonne can get them to the service and the residents of Carechoice. Thank you in advance.

And, finally...

