

# Parish Mirror

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021

ISSUE 59

## From the Priest-in-Charge

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we enter the season of Lent, you may be experiencing the reality of the wilderness like never before. We will soon reach the milestone of one year since the pandemic arrived and pulled the rug out from underneath us. So much of what we thought was secure has toppled; so many restrictions have hampered our lives, and worst of all, so many lives have been lost and families bereaved because of this invisible enemy, Covid-19. Who could have imagined this time last year what lay ahead of us? And who can say for certain when it will end? On top of all that, you have now embarked on a vacancy in your United Parishes, which inevitably can be a time of upheaval, adjustment and uncertainty.

The English word 'Lent' is a shortened form of the Old English word 'lencten', meaning "spring season", the lengthening of days. Spring is a time when nature literally springs back to life after the desolation and barrenness of Winter. Unless we have experienced this rebirth and renewal before, it would seem impossible to expect, yet year after year it happens – we can depend on it.

Jesus' time in the desert- in fact his entire life, death and resurrection - reminds us that we can also always depend on God, no matter what the season.

May you know that trust and confidence in Him as we continue to find our way through these difficult times.

*Rev. Lesley Robinson*

## 2020 Parish Finances

### *A Year of Great Uncertainty with a Recovery in Parish Finances*

We started 2020 with a negative cash position of €19k, due to the major unplanned project that was carried out on St. Andrew's Church ceiling at the end of 2019 costing in excess of €78k. The Select Vestry set out at its Feb. meeting an aggressive plan to recover the deficit in 2020 and to build up a reserve fund for future needs.

Needless to say nobody anticipated how life was about to be impacted with the arrival of the Coronavirus Pandemic and it was soon very apparent that our 2020 plan was thrown into total disarray, resulting in the need to make several revisions to the plan over the course of the year.

During the year, some income streams were considerably reduced below expectations. In particular, the Parish Centre suffered a fall of in excess of 60% versus plan. We did however realise significant savings in running expenses as a result of the closure of our buildings for almost half of the year.

The generosity of our parishioners and friends was a major factor in assisting the parish to overcome the financial difficulties. You provided us with interest-free loans, responded to appeals by making donations in excess of €30k and we recovered most of the shortfall of Freewill Offerings by the end of the year.

As a result of all combined efforts, we have managed to finish 2020 with a positive cash position of approx. €39k. This reserve places the parish in a good financial position to meet the continuing challenges associated with the pandemic, as well as providing funds to carry out necessary renovation activities to the rectory in preparation of the arrival of a new incumbent.

The Select Vestry wishes to sincerely thank each and everyone for the generous support and contributions made over this difficult year.

A detailed audited Financial Report will be published in due course.

*Brian Brown*



### Contacts: Ministry team:

**Parish Administrator:  
St. Andrew's School Office**

Rev. Lesley Robinson  
Rev. Prof. Anne Lodge  
Mark Acheson  
Vicki Deacon

087-9091561  
086-3736995  
087-9674885  
816 8698 8450185  
086-2791615

revlesleyrobinson@gmail.com  
anne.lodge454@gmail.com  
markacheson@gmail.com  
standrewsparishmalahide@gmail.com

Further information about Parish Officers and Parish Organisations at the Parish Website: <http://malahide.dublin.anglican.org/>

## SUMMARY OF THE PROCESS FOR APPOINTING A NEW RECTOR

Since the retirement of Norman Gamble, many parishioners have been enquiring about the appointment of a new rector.

Who appoints him or her?

Is the post advertised?

Have we already made an offer to somebody?

How long will the process take?

When can we expect to have services in our own church again?

The process of appointing a new rector takes place according to procedures laid down by the Church of Ireland. Here **Brian Brown** describes how those procedures work.



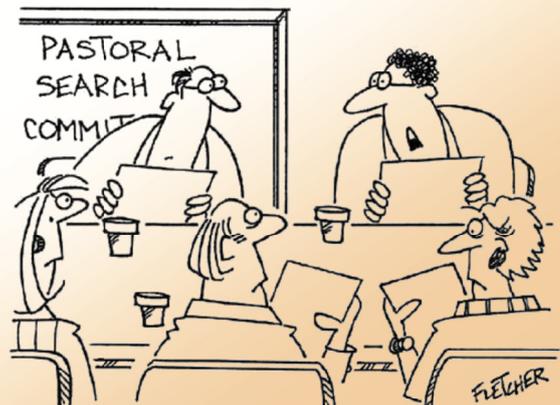
As every Church of Ireland Rector is an 'incumbent', this means that legally a replacement procedure cannot commence until the parish is actually and physically vacant. There will, therefore, inevitably be a few months of vacancy before the replacement procedure can formally begin.

A Board of Nomination will be called by the Archbishop, which Board consists of 4 Parochial Nominators and 5 Diocesan Nominators, ( comprising 4 clergy and 1 lay member) only once the Archbishop has been assured that the parish finances are in order and viable and that the rectory building is suitable and in an acceptable state of repair.

The Board is chaired by the Archbishop and from the date of the initial meeting the Board has a maximum of 3 months to make a nomination. If the board fails to make a nomination by a process of affirmative voting, by procedure the right of appointment then passes to the Chairman of the Board, the Archbishop.

It is important to note that at the first meeting of the Board, each member has to agree to a confidentiality agreement whereby the Parochial Nominators appointed by the parish, cannot divulge who they are talking to, how they are getting on etc. until the entire process has been completed.

Once an individual is nominated, agrees to accept the nomination, subject to any specific terms and conditions and is subsequently accepted by the Archbishop, it will most likely be the case that the priest will have to give notice to his or her parish, which would result in a further a 3 - 4 months interval, before the institution of the new Rector can take place.



"Basically, we're looking for an innovative pastor with a fresh vision who will inspire our church to remain exactly the same."

## THE MEDICAL HALL

CHURCH ROAD  
MALAHIDE

Proprietor: Aideen Murphy MPSI

### Opening Hours:

Mon-Fri 9.00 am - 6.30 pm

Sat 9.00 am - 6.00 pm

Sun 11.00 am - 1.30 pm

Phone 845 1536 / 845 6637

## DAVID M. TURNER SOLICITOR Commissioners for Oaths

32 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1

- \* House Purchasers and Sales
- \* Re-Mortgages
- \* Wills
- \* Probate
- \* Family Law
- \* Debt Collection
- \* Divorce
- \* Employment Law
- \* Litigation / Accidents

Tel: 878 7922 Fax: 872 7736  
Email: info@dmtturner.ie

## Down MEMORY LANE (and far beyond)

### Malahide and Portmarnock Parishes and the United Parish

Not always easy to record the past. Recently a book was given to the Parish by a friend of a parishioner and its contents are most interesting. It contains reports presented to the Easter Vestry of the United Parishes of Malahide and Portmarnock from 1876 to 1889.

The 1888 report covers the Churches of Malahide and Portmarnock. St Doulagh's was not part of the parish at this time. Interestingly, this report lists the clergy of the parish and indeed parishes. It says that the list of the names of the clergy is very imperfect but it is certainly worth recording here.

Firstly Malahide:	Then Portmarnock
1193 Walter Talbot	1615 John Etheridge
1615 Patrick Greaghgan	1630 Richard Kelly
1630 Richard Kelly	1639 Randal Dymock
1822 Francis Chamley	1788 Hector Monro
1834 Josiah Crampton	1799 William Percival
1838 Thos. Trotter King	1821 William Maconchy
1863 R.W. Whelan	1827 Geo. W. Tredennick
1871 J.J. K. Fletcher	1830 George Cole Baker
	1857 Colpoys C. Baker

Malahide and Portmarnock United	
1873	J.J. K. Fletcher
1874	Robert Walsh

The report gives significant information in relation to the past history of the parish.



**Ruins of old Malahide Church, in the grounds of Malahide Castle**

mother Church; this chapelry was probably founded where the present ruins stand in Malahide Demesne. It is certain that the church, of which these ruins are the existing remains, was there, or was built there in the time of Sir R. Talbot – one of the Anglo-Norman knights who

assisted in the conquest of Ireland, and obtained Malahide and other lands in reward for his services.

When Oliver Cromwell took Drogheda in 1649, he left his lieutenant, Myles Corbet, in occupation of Malahide Castle. Corbet desecrated the church by stabling his horses there. Before he left the castle he unroofed the church, using the lead to make bullets for his soldiers. For about 170 years the parish of Malahide was left without a church."

The record goes on to say "The present Parish Church of Malahide was built in 1820 – 1; it was consecrated November 21st 1822 as "the church of St. Andrew." The S.W. aisle was added in the year 1870"

The report of 1888 then goes on to deal with Portmarnock church.

"The Ancient Church of Portmarnock, or Port St. Marnock (i.e. the landing place of St Marnock) in St Marnock's demesne, was probably founded soon after the English Conquest, and remained in use up to the year 1615. By the year 1630 we are told in a Diocesan record that "church and chancel were very ruinous."



**Ruins of old Portmarnock Church, visible from Chapel Road, Kinsealy.**

There is little known of St Marnock, or Mernock, to whom the church was dedicated. He was commemorated as a saint in the Cistercian Calendar. He was buried in the chancel of this church, and in the middle of the 15th century his remains were disinterred and removed from Portmarnock church to St Mary's Abbey, where a chapel was erected to his memory. For more than a century and a half the parish of Portmarnock was without a church.

The present Parish Church was built in 1789, and was consecrated May 26th 1790, as the parish church of Portmarnock. The interior was remodelled and reseated, and the vestry was built in the year 1880.

In 1873 Portmarnock Parish was united to Malahide parish."

The church in Portmarnock was finally closed in 1960.

*Derek Moffatt*

## 2020 Freewill Offering Receipts

Total € 71,424.10

We would like to thank all those parishioners who contribute on a regular basis to the Parish through the Envelope and Standing Order schemes. These are essential in keeping the Parish finances in good order. Below are details of your contributions for 2020 listed by your personal number. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Robert Barker --Parish Recorder

Envelope No	€	Envelope No	€	Envelope No	€
1	800.00	78	31.00	150	860.00
2	1200.00	79	870.00	151	360.00
4	570.00	80	520.00	154	680.00
6	330.00	82	45.00	156	1920.00
7	503.20	83	570.00	157	264.00
8	1215.00	84	540.00	158	870.00
9	440.00	85	400.00	159	40.00
11	480.00	86	20.00	160	10.00
14	2080.00	87	180.00	161	240.00
15	600.00	89	1260.00	163	105.00
16	600.00	90	460.00	164	410.00
18	215.00	92	300.00	165	440.00
20	140.00	93	352.00	168	20.00
23	450.00	94	325.00	171	390.00
24	600.00	95	480.00	172	1300.00
25	1354.60	96	420.00	174	40.00
26	300.00	98	500.00	175	25.00
27	120.00	99	400.00	176	220.00
28	10.00	100	10.00	218	5.00
29	1035.00	102	200.00	300	1080.00
35	70.00	103	300.00	305	100.00
36	20.00	104	250.00	307	240.00
38	20.00	105	600.00	310	240.00
39	480.00	107	10.00	317	240.00
42	240.00	109	360.00	318	300.00
43	55.30	111	485.00	319	400.00
44	240.00	112	10.00	320	660.00
45	1015.00	114	390.00	321	100.00
46	630.00	115	400.00	324	600.00
47	360.00	116	480.00	326	300.00
48	240.00	119	515.00	328	720.00
49	6.00	120	360.00	329	540.00
50	50.00	122	115.00	332	300.00
51	270.00	123	4745.00	338	240.00
52	880.00	124	95.00	339	350.00
53	139.00	125	365.00	344	200.00
55	15.00	126	520.00	345	360.00
56	5.00	127	800.00	346	480.00
58	500.00	130	288.00	348	600.00
59	490.00	133	435.00	357	960.00
60	1320.00	134	185.00	358	252.00
62	60.00	136	600.00	359	1080.00
65	300.00	137	7.00	361	400.00
66	290.00	139	252.00	362	480.00
67	261.00	140	1170.00	364	600.00
68	400.00	141	20.00	366	720.00
70	240.00	142	50.00	370	240.00
71	605.50	143	50.00	372	560.00
72	2400.00	144	22.50	375	120.00
73	360.00	145	190.00	376	50.00
74	270.00	146	240.00		
75	920.00	147	1060.00	Total	71,424.10
76	225.00	148	41.00		

## Tom's thoughtful spot

### Reasons for hope

In recent months a quotation from author Davie Hollis has gone 'viral' on social media. It reads: 'In the rush to return to normal, use this time to consider which parts of normal are worth rushing back to.' This seems like sound advice.



I remember my last day at the office on 12th March 2020 when a very kind colleague commented and advised about what this could all mean. Among other things, she opined that 'this whole thing might slow us down a bit'. Almost a year later and 2,750 zoom, webex, WhatsApp, Microsoft teams and skype calls in the meantime I have lost any sense of time. Now did I last speak to so and so in October or was it in June? I do remember being at church for a service of Holy Communion on Christmas Day in Skerries. And I remember many weekly prayer gatherings by zoom.

Somehow, most of us have adapted to a different life. There is no point in remaining stuck in negative emotions be they of anger, blame or sadness. To use that awful expression, 'we are where we are and we may get on with it'. If the pandemic has taught us one thing it is that plans are entirely tentative and subject to change. Speaking for myself I have learned a few things, like more gratitude for what I have – family, friends and neighbours (even if I cannot visit or hug any of them for now!). I am also more grateful than ever for faith – fragile as it can be in the midst of storms and uncertainties. Rather than curse the darkness, why not light a few candles like:

- Making that phone call
- Writing that letter and putting a bit of time, feeling and effort into it (the lost art)
- Devoting quality time to the prayerful reading of scripture after an early good breakfast (or early morning walk!)
- Taking notice of the natural world about us of which we are a part.
- Writing a letter or a blog about a matter of social justice.
- Keeping an eye out for a neighbour in need.

One of the things I have learned is just how much beauty, curiosity and surprise is available within a 5 kilometre radius of where I live (60% of it being sea!).

We are an Easter people and for sure we will celebrate Easter together again in packed churches where Bread and Word will be broken and we will enjoy each other's company during, as well as after, service. We do not know which year this will be possible (it will not be this year). In the meantime, let's keep on lighting candles of kindness and looking for reasons to be thankful.

*Tom Healy*

# Vestry

## Happenings of your Select Vestry- February 2021.

Under the chairmanship of Rev Lesley, we still are having our monthly Zoom vestry meetings.

Among the topics we discussed was our old favourite subject of finance, reviewing 2020 results and approving our plan for 2021.

Our fundraisers considered the possibilities of fund raising online. If anyone has any suggestions, please tell a member of the Select Vestry or Vicki Deacon your ideas.

We discussed our properties and in particular key works required in the now vacant rectory so that it will be suitable for a new occupant.

Our Safeguarding Trust plan has been re-examined and updated along with statutory requirements.

Our Sunday Zoom services which we think are particularly good were discussed to see if improvements can be made.

Normally we finish up with prayer, however at the last meeting, having said our prayer we closed with all in the group singing Happy Birthday to Hazel!

*Nigel Warburton*

---

## Parish Centre News

Sadly, there is not much activity to report from the Parish Centre at the moment due to Covid -19 restrictions. Kandoo After School Club is open for children of essential workers but they have the Centre to themselves. Things were looking quite good before Christmas, Ballet, Irish Dancing and Girls Brigade were all able to get back using the premises. Lynne Forsythe has opened her new Montessori in the centre called Little Milestones, but like the schools they have been unable to re-open so far this year.

We look forward to everyone being able to come back soon.

*Vicki*

## *A Tribute to Pat Keegan*

Pat was a resident of Malahide since the age of 18 years. For her to reach the age of 98½ years was incredible. She had a great sense of humour and was always in good form and delighted to have company around her. She loved life and embraced every day with a smile. Her family meant everything to her and she looked after her grandchildren and great grandchildren with great affection. Pat and her husband Fred both worked in Malahide Castle for many years and lived in several lodges on the estate. The enclosed photograph was taken in 2018 when she returned to the lodge where she lived. Pat was delighted to see the house that had been renovated and was in excellent condition.



**Pat Keegan at the door of the lodge where she lived in Malahide Castle**

I got to know Pat some 40 years ago through the Mothers' Union and enjoyed a great relationship with her over the years. She called me her "adopted daughter". On many occasions I would take her to the shops and visiting other parishioners. Pat enjoyed the Mothers' Union meetings and the outings and was a great supporter. The monthly coffee mornings were never missed and she loved catching up with everyone. Pat was also a member of the Active Retired and always enjoyed their coach trips to various venues around the country. In earlier years she helped with 'meals on wheels' and volunteered with the thrift shop and helped make teas in the cricket club.

She will be greatly missed by her family and all her friends. Her funeral was held in St. Andrew's Church on the 8th January 2021. It was curtailed by the Coronavirus, as only a small number of the family could attend.

*Daryl Hyland.*

## *Malahide Bethany 10.30 am Monday Morning Bereavement Support Group, is taking place on Zoom.*

Malahide Bethany Bereavement Support Group is a team of trained volunteer bereavement facilitators.

Our group is interdenominational thanks to the initiative and the legacy of Susan Gamble. Susan became a trained bereavement facilitator and was an active and valued member of the Malahide Bethany team for many years.

During Susan's time, the group was an example of very practical ecumenism at work in our community. The Malahide Bethany team would like to keep this spirit alive.

Parishioners of St Andrew's parish and surrounds may be interested to know that our longstanding Monday Morning Bereavement Support Group which was previously held in person is being held on Zoom during Covid.

The Monday morning group is a welcoming, safe, confidential and respectful space for anyone who has been bereaved.

For anyone who is interested in attending, and is anxious about using technology; we will do our best to help you to access the group. You will need a PC, tablet or smartphone

If you or someone you know have been bereaved and would like to find out more about the Monday support group, please visit the Bethany page of the St Sylvester's parish website at <https://www.malahideparish.ie/bethany> or you can phone us on 087 7936189

You can find out more about Malahide Bethany's other activities on the website and for anyone who may be interested, how to become a trained Bethany volunteer .



## Church Services for March & April

Combined services will continue online via Zoom every Sunday at 10.30 am while restrictions prohibiting in-person worship are in place.

When restrictions are lifted there will be Holy Communion in St. Doulagh's at 10am and in St. Andrew's at 11.30am on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. All other services will be Morning Prayer or Service of the Word. Holy Week and Easter arrangements will be published nearer the time via the parish email. Emergencies will be covered by Rev. Lesley Robinson 087 9091561

## Contacts

### Pastoral Care and Support

Hazel Caird 845 0481

### Churchwardens

#### St. Andrew's

Linda Barry  
Graeme Tarbox

#### St. Doulagh's

John Chambers  
Jennifer Young



**SIGNS**  
**BANNERS**  
**GRAPHICS**  
**POSTERS**  
**PRINTS**

www.dpi.ie  
+353(01) 440 6666  
info@dpi.ie

## Declan Killen GOLDSMITHS

Our range of traditional and contemporary jewellery available in gold and silver at our studio workshop and showroom at

12, Fade Street, Dublin 2

Telephone 677 0829

## St. Andrew's Recipe

### FLAVOURS OF THE WORLD



During lockdown I decided to take on the challenge every weekend to make different dishes from around the world. I am going to share a recipe with you in each issue of the mirror of the dishes that I made. I hope you all enjoy making them as much as I did.

Anne Taplin



IRELAND

### BEEF & GUINNESS CASSEROLE

(Serves 6-8)

#### Ingredients:

- 2lb diced stewing beef
- 2oz diced smoked bacon
- 1lb button mushrooms halved
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1oz butter
- 1 pint Guinness stout
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 2 pints beef stock
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon chopped thyme
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 8oz shallots, peeled and left whole
- Salt and black pepper

#### Method:

1. Preheat oven to 360°F
2. Heat some of the oil and butter in a pan over a high heat when bubbling add a third of the beef and stir regularly to seal in flavour and until brown. Repeat until all the meat is browned and place in casserole dish.
3. Add the smoked bacon to the pan and cook for 4-5 mins remove and place in casserole dish.
4. Pour quarter of the Guinness into the empty frying pan on the heat and mix with the meat juices.
5. Stir in the tomato puree and the rest of the Guinness, stock, bay leaf, thyme, Worcestershire sauce and salt and pepper bring to the boil and pour over meat in casserole dish and cover with lid.
6. Place in oven for 1 hour 45 mins stirring occasionally and then stir in mushrooms and onions and cook for a further 45 minutes without lid on.
7. Season to taste and serve with boiled potatoes!

If you find the stew a bit watery just add a small amount of corn flour to thicken it up.

**Bain taitneamh as do bhéile!**



## *Appointment of Vicki Deacon to position of Parish Administrator.*

We are pleased to announce that Vicki Deacon has accepted the position of Parish Administrator with effect from 1st Feb.

Vicki has been assisting us on a temporary basis over the past 3 months, following on from the resignation of Anne Taplin in November.

In her role as Parish Administrator, she will be responsible for parish administration support to the rector and officers of the Select Vestry, as well as the day to day management and control of the Parish Centre.

Please offer your support to Vicki in her new role and when the opportunity arises in the future, call in and get acquainted with her.

*Brian Brown*

## *Malahide Mothers' Union*

**'BUILDING HOPE AND CONFIDENCE'**



We hope all our Branch members are keeping well in these difficult times. Unfortunately with the continuing Covid-19 restrictions Branch meetings will not take place for some time to come, but we will keep in contact with each other and hope for better times.

Due to the Covid restrictions sadly we were unable to mark the retirement of our Rector, Rev. Dr. Norman Gamble in January. However, when we can meet together again as a Branch, we hope to have an event to thank Norman and Susan for their support and care to our Branch over the past thirty years. We wish them every happiness in their new home.

In recent months Branch members contributed gifts to Darndale Crèche, the Home Start Project and we made deliveries to the Alice Leahy Trust.

*Olive Haynes*

### Parish Mirror Committee:

#### *Editorial Committee*

Brian Brown      Vicki Deacon  
Graham Smith    Derek Moffatt

#### *Layout*

Howard Duncan

#### *Advertising*

Vicki Deacon. Phone: 816 8698  
e-mail:  
standrewsparishmalahide@gmail.com

#### *Distribution Queries to*

Parish Centre Office    816 8698    Vicki Deacon, Parish Administrator    (086 2791615)  
standrewsparishmalahide@gmail.com

#### *The Mirror by e-mail*

E-mail howard.duncan2@gmail.com with the subject heading "Mirror on-line", and containing your own e-mail address. Include your name and postal address in the text, so that you can be deleted from the manual delivery list.

**Please note** contributions for each issue **MUST** be delivered to the Parish Office by the 15th of the preceding month. Contributions in electronic form can be sent by e-mail to standrewsparishmalahide@gmail.com or howard.duncan2@gmail.com.