

ParishMirror

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2021

ISSUE 63

From the Priest-in-Charge

Greetings friends,

I hope this new season finds you well and that you had the opportunity over the summer months to enjoy some rest and renewal. I send my very best wishes to all preparing to return to school or college in September.

The short heatwave we had in July with its ensuing temperatures of 30+ in some cases was perhaps a reminder to be careful what you wish for- most of us simply aren't built to cope in such heat! Of course, our unusually high temperatures paled into insignificance compared to those recorded in parts of southern Europe and the USA and it was very sad to see the carnage and loss of life and vegetation brought about by heat-induced wildfires. As much as we all enjoy good weather, especially if we have the time and opportunity to enjoy it, the recent IPCC report makes grim reading with its stark warnings about the soon-to-be -irreversible effects of climate change on our planet. As usual, the world's poorest will suffer most (that is already happening in many parts of the world) but none of us will be immune in the future. This is no longer an issue solely for those who vote for the Green Party at election time, neither can it be an optional extra for churches or Christians. Our stewardship of the wonderful creation with which God entrusted us has been sadly lacking in the past. While it's easy to blame others (industries, farmers etc.), all of us have a role to play in saving

Continued on page 2

Thank You Norman & Susan

Rev. Norman Gamble retired from active ministry in January this year after over 30 years of dedicated service in our parishes. We deferred finalising arrangements to mark the occasion in anticipation and hope that further easing of Covid restrictions during the year might permit a representative gathering of friends and parishioners to attend such an event.



John Chambers, Rev. Leslie Robinson, Rev. Norman Gamble, Susan Gamble and Linda Barry after the Service of Thanksgiving.

As unfortunately this situation failed to materialise, we decided to hold a service of thanksgiving in St. Andrew's church on Sunday 15th August followed by a presentation to Norman and his wife Susan. The service of Holy Communion was conducted by Rev. Lesley Robinson.

Due to the continuing covid restrictions the attendance was by invitation only, limited to 50 persons, including personal friends of Rev Gamble. Select Vestry members, representatives of parish organisations and parish office holders.

At the conclusion of the service, John Chambers, Rector's churchwarden St. Doulagh's church, addressed the congregation outlining the many contributions Norman had made to the development of the parishes.

Continued on page 2

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

Thank You Norman & Susan

Continued from page 1

The following is an extract of John's address.

Norman had served three generations, welcoming the new born, seeing them grow and get married and has perhaps baptised their children as well. He has been there with us in tougher times as well – ministering to the sick and comforting those of us who have lost loved ones.

Over the 30 years much had changed, so too had the physical face of the parishes. The development of St. Andrew's Church, the construction of St. Marnock's Chapel, the conservation work at St Doulagh's Church and the building of a Parish Centre, which provides a home to so many activities run by groups and community organisations in these parishes. Norman and Susan have been active and supportive, a strong and steady presence at the heart of our parishes and in the wider community.

We should also acknowledge the great contribution that Norman made to the ecumenical field, strengthening ties with other faith communities, especially locally.

In a real sense, Norman has shaped the future of these parishes through the commitment he brought to his Chairmanship of the Board of Management of St. Andrew's School. He advocated for and supported the extension of the school buildings in both phases, and part of his legacy is the wonderful, modern and well-equipped school we now have. Norman also played a key role in the Church of Ireland Primary School Managers Association.

A presentation was subsequently made by John Chambers and Linda Barry, (Rector's Churchwarden St. Andrew's), on behalf of the parishioners and friends to Norman and Susan in recognition and appreciation of their dedicated service and support afforded to us during their stay with us.

Norman thanked all present for their attendance and the gifts presented to Susan and himself. He outlined the background to his arrival in the United Parishes, emphasising the importance for a rector to reach out beyond the parish boundaries and the Anglican denomination. He stated that the many achievements that John had mentioned in his address were realised by the parishioners working together. Finally, he thanked his wife Susan for the great support she had given him over the years.

A full version of Norman's speech to the parishioners is available on the parish website at <https://malahide.dublin.anglican.org>



From the Priest-in-Charge

Continued from page 1

our planet from catastrophe. The ways we travel, dress, eat, as well as the energy we consume in our homes can be modified to be more environmentally friendly. I suspect that as governments try to come to terms with the scope of what must be done collectively, some of these changes may be taken out of our hands. But let us all willingly play our part to safeguard our world for our children's children, and to the glory of God, our Creator.

Continued prayers and good wishes,

Lesley

Parish Centre News

It has been a quiet summer in the Parish Centre. Kandoo used the premises throughout July and August but due to Covid Restrictions no other indoor camps were able to take place.

September will hopefully see the return of most of our users, with Pilates, Taekwondo, Boot camp Ireland, Little Kickers and Girls Brigade all hoping to be allowed back after a long absence. Mothers' Union also hopes to get back to their regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month.

Little Milestones will return for its second year and Ballet and Irish dancing are also due to resume.

We are looking forward to a busy Autumn.

Vicki

Parish Registers

Funerals

Ken Foot

Ken, who was a long-time parishioner, died on 8th July, predeceased by his wife Milly. He is survived by his daughters Vyvyenne and Jacquie who reside in Canada and England. Due to Covid restrictions, neither of Ken's daughters was able to be present at his funeral. The service was conducted by Rev. Lesley Robinson, assisted by Rev. Norman Gamble. We extend to his daughters and families our heartfelt sympathies and condolences.

Margaret Plant

We were saddened to hear that Margaret Plant, nee Gilbert, a former St. Andrew's parishioner has died. She had been living in Skerries for quite a few years. Condolences to her family.

Down MEMORY LANE (and far beyond)

St. Marnock's Chapel. This time perhaps not "far beyond"

St. Andrews Church was built in 1822 on an East – West orientation. The building was funded by a grant from the Board of First Fruits and a donation from the Talbot family. In 1870 the church was significantly enlarged and the orientation was altered to North – South.



The foundation stone for St. Marnock's Chapel was laid on the 21st January, 2006 by Mr. Richard Burrows in the presence of the Right Reverend Dr. Mounseer Hanna Amir, Bishop of Egypt and North Africa. A small plaque in the entrance to St. Andrew's gives all this detail. Again a further plaque lists all those who kindly gave donations towards the cost of the building and furnishings.

The building of 2006 resulted in a very significant improvement in the facilities available. First up must be mentioned the side chapel, named St. Marnock's. The name giving recognition of the United Parish of St. Doulagh's, St. Andrew's and of course now Portmarnock.

A greatly increased size of entrance gave much more easy access to the church. The narrowness of the 1870 entrance left a lot to be desired and made significant difficulties for weddings and funerals. An opening opposite to the entrance gives easy access directly to the graveyard to the rear.

Much thought went into the design and usefulness of the new building. A toilet with changing facilities for babies was a most desirable addition. Four rooms off the side chapel were provided. The first allowed for the provision of tea, coffee and some food. A further room is the Choir Room which allows for the storage of Choir Regalia.

Then there is a Store room and finally a new Vestry. The provision of a new Vestry meant that the existing one beside the organ could be adapted for the storage of music etc. for the choir and for use by the organist.

So it can be seen that after much thought the building in 2006 provided all the desired facilities which had been missing.

The building was constructed by Collen Brothers and the architect was Stuart Hill, who did a superb job because any addition to the old church that wasn't thought to be appropriate would have been very greatly criticised. Subsequently he received an architectural award in the UK for the work on St Marnock's Chapel.

The furniture purchased for St Marnock's Chapel was of very high quality and after some fifteen years it still remains in first class condition.

In addition to the provision of St Marnock's Chapel some work was also carried out on the existing church. The lighting was replaced and some fifteen years later it is still in excellent condition with the lighting of the main church very adequate. The window above the gallery at the South end of the nave was essentially of plain glass. In



good weather with the sun shining this made it very difficult for the preacher in the pulpit. In order to alleviate the difficulty it was obvious that the glass needed replacement. The cost of replacement was very kindly provided by Mr. Richard Burrows.

The stained glass windows of St Marnock's Chapel, and the window in the South of the nave were the work of Mr. George Walsh, who really greatly added to the excellence of the building. But more of this another day.

Derek Moffatt



ROSIE -a short story by Dorothy Robinson

It all happened at the wedding of Sorie Hilliard and George Pitman on April 5th 1965.

The wedding took place in St. Mary's Church, Killarney and the reception was in the Lake Hotel. My parents, husband Mervyn and myself were invited. It was a lovely wedding in a most beautiful setting. The reception was held in the Hotel dining room, which at the time had a leather-covered seat running along under the windows looking out over the lake.

I still retain the memory of my father sitting on that seat talking to Raymonde Hilliard, a first cousin of the bride, who ran a large dairy herd nearby. Sometime later I was talking to my father when he announced "I have bought an in-calf heifer from Raymonde."

"And how are we going to get the heifer to Malahide" I asked.

"On the train", he said. It's all arranged. Raymonde will put the heifer on the train at Killarney and let me know when it will arrive in Malahide".

"And how are we going to get the heifer from the station up home", I demanded.



"That will be no bother", he replied, "we'll walk her".

As planned, the heifer duly arrived at Malahide station. She had hay with her, and had been well looked after, but she was very glad to get out of the guard's van. The stationmaster helped us all out of the station. Afterwards he went back to clean up after the heifer ... in

her excitement she had done a few plops!!!

Da had decided we would go up St. Margaret's Road and not go up Church Road, so we crossed the main road with Da holding on to the rope and telling the heifer all the time what a good girl she was. Thngs were going well and we had started up St. Margaret's Road when Da decided the heifer would be better off without the rope.

Well, once she felt the freedom and got the smell of grass from the newly-mown lawns, all hell broke loose. The heifer took off, in and out of gardens with Da shouting instructions and the owners of those pristine gardens hanging out of their windows shouting to us to get that cow out of their garden. We decided that it would be better if I went in front and shut all the gates, while Da drove the heifer from behind. This actually worked quite well and we eventually came out at the top of Church Road. We were now travelling well, with me running in front, the heifer at a trot to keep her mind off the grass verges and Da keeping all in order from behind.

As we came along by McDowell's fields all of the cattle came up to the hedge to see what the commotion was about, so of course, our dear heifer had to see what they were about. By this time we were all exhausted so we all had a rest while the heifer had a feed on the grass verge. We eventually got going again, being much more dignified and appearing to look as if we really knew what we were doing.

We finally came under the low railway bridge just before "Hazelbrook", and of course a train happened to go over the bridge just as the heifer was underneath. The poor thing got such a fright that she bolted and nearly ran back to Malahide ... more shouting!!! Fortunately there was a man coming up behind us on his bicycle who stopped her. We managed to get her back under the bridge and eventually into the field at home.

Continued on page 6

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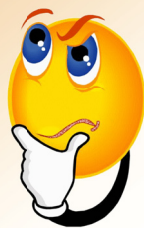
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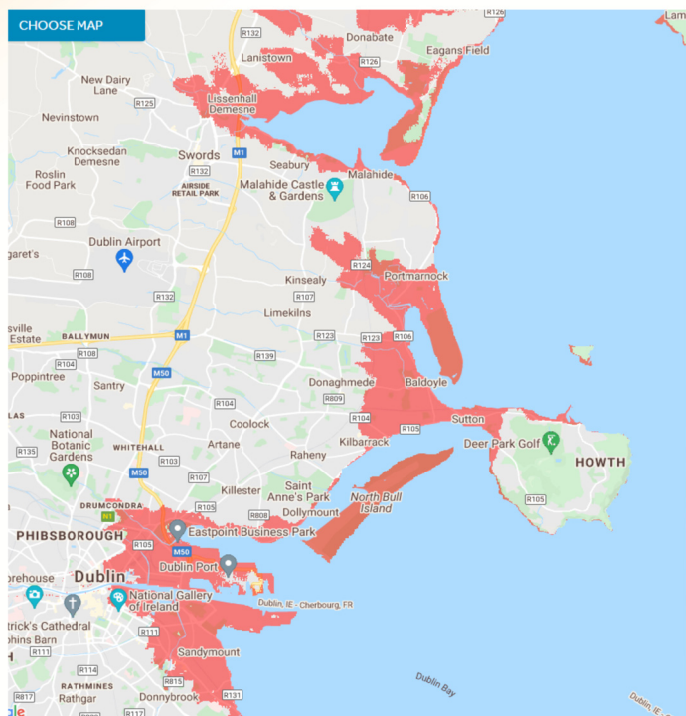
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Tom's thoughtful spot

Can you remember what you were doing and where you were around 3.00 pm on the 11th of September 20 years? I can; I am sure that you can too (unless you were born after 2001 of course!). Only like yesterday you might say.



Now, might we cast our minds forward the duration of time to the year 2040. Here is some good news: according to one set of scientific projections, St Andrew's and St Doulagh's are likely not to be under water (see <https://coastal.climatecentral.org>) in 2040. As with any scientific predictions we must be mindful of complexity and uncertainty. It may turn out better, worse or very different. I should add that, according to the same projection out to 2040, much of the coastal strip around Malahide and much of lower Portmarnock is very much at risk.



Ireland under water

None of this is meant to panic so much as to draw attention to the highly unstable and risky period that lies ahead. We cannot deny the facts of rising sea levels and warming of the oceans. Neither can we deny the pattern of extreme weather events, loss of biodiversity and increased pressures on the ecosystems about us. We ignore these developments at our peril.

The environment should be the top issue for our times. Our actions now have a profound impact on future generations. The harm caused by particular patterns of human activity is already evident to see. While there is still time to slow down future damage the time to act is fast running out.

For the last 18 months we have been preoccupied by covid-19. We do not know exactly how or where this disease started. However, according to many experts, it

is very likely the result of a pathogen jumping from animals to humans. Viruses and major epidemics typically spread from animals to humans and mutate along the way. Patterns of human development have brought certain animals closer to humans with risks of infection and virus-jumping.

What does any of this have to do with this parish? Whatever impacts on others impacts on us. Those who suffer the most from climate change are heading our way one way or another. And they are our sisters and brothers. We need to read the signs of the times and adjust our vision and actions. Churches have an important role in sensitising people to the huge changes underway. We are called to act for justice; we cannot ignore the crisis literally on our doorsteps. Our faith in a God of love propels us to act and to speak out.

We must begin with ourselves. What is my carbon footprint? Try this link to start -

<https://www.footprintcalculator.org/>



Holy Trinity Church Rathmines

Radical change is needed at societal level in the way we live, produce, consume, travel and heat our homes and buildings. All of this requires joined up thinking and action at global as well as national level. The problem is too large and the chains of impact and causality are too globally interwoven that no one country can solve matters on its own. Yet, we can begin small changes in our own spheres of living. Perhaps a little less red meat, less reliance on fossil fuels for heating and travel, greater recourse to public transport and investment in a deep retrofit of our homes when circumstances and budgets might permit could all help. However, this is easier said than done. Most people have little or no choice and pressures on incomes and budgets rules out certain things even if, in the long-run, it will save us money and make a positive contribution to our shared environment.

Communities of faith including churches have an important role to play. We might like to think that we can take the high moral ground. But do we? Do we know the carbon content of all our investments? What can we do to make costly adjustments to the way we manage buildings, heat them and manage our properties? In the

Continued on page 6

Tom's thoughtful spot

Continued from page 5

scriptures we are called to be heralds of courage and hope. We know that the Earth is good and we have been appointed as stewards of creation for this and future generations. We may also hear the cry of the Earth as it groans from exploitation, dumping and over-use not to mention the shifts in climate and ecological imbalances that arise from erosion of natural habitats. We may feel a sense of helplessness in the face of the global scale of the challenge. However, we can take small steps individually and as a parish. These steps may seem like mere tokens. However, we cannot estimate the impact of systematic but small acts of kindness and consideration in the places and among the persons where we have been planted.

We might also pray a bit more about the environment and climate change in our personal and shared prayer lives.

Good God of all creation, what would You have us do now? What would You have me do?

Tom Healy

MOTHERS' UNION NOTES

REBUILDING HOPE AND CONFIDENCE

We hope everyone is keeping well. The committee will be meeting in the near future to discuss a plan for the MU season. As soon as we have looked at all our options and what might be possible, we will be in touch with members.

During National Heritage Week In August we are marking the 100th anniversary of the death of Annabella Hayes, Founder of Mothers' Union in Ireland.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Eddie Jackson. We extend our deepest sympathy to Sheila and all the family.

Olive Haynes



Music in time of Pandemic.

*"Till a silence fell with the waking bird,
And a hush with the setting moon". Tennyson*

As most people know, Covid 19 has been very bad for "the arts". As you read this it will be just over nineteen months since my last public concert. As concerts don't happen spontaneously this figure hides the lost hours of planning, practising, rehearsing, travel etc. For musicians, actors and dancers life is not a simple nine to five job but more of a way of life and a means of expression. Sadly all this has ceased and, realistically, indoor performances with social distancing for audiences, (never mind ensembles and choirs) will probably not recommence until next Spring. Although instrumental teaching has been possible in an unsatisfactory way, group rehearsals are impossible due to time lag, freezing and differing broadband speeds.

I have been asked "what do you do with this extra time on your hands?" Musically, during the lockdowns I used the time for practising as well as arranging and editing music plus some online piano teaching. As restrictions eased some face to face, or rather mask to mask, teaching became possible but rehearsing sadly is still not possible. Of a more Parochial interest, the end of the lockdowns, which meant that I could play in St. Andrews again, gave me more time to maintain the organ which had been unused for five months, not least cleaning the soundboards. Due to the disintegrating ceiling in St. Andrew's plus an overhasty scaffolder, these were covered in dust and rubble. As there was little time to clean these properly before the completion of the work for the rededication of the church I only removed the worst of the debris. Cleaning between the pipes (about 760) without removing them is a fiddly and time-consuming job, but as you can see from the photos, these are now almost pristine. Once these were cleaned and some pipes unblocked, I took the opportunity to reset the tuning bearings and with Howard Duncan giving up several hours over two days holding notes was able to give the organ a thorough tuning.



As singing in most C.O.I. churches has ceased for the duration, parish sympathies should go to the choir who I know really miss the Sunday morning craic and singing.

Rodney Baldwin



ROSIE

Continued from page 4

Our Rosie settled down very quickly and in time produced the first of many calves and gave the family milk, cream and butter for many years.

As for us, we were so exhausted there wasn't even breath for recrimination, which was just as well, as we never

repeated the adventure.

Church Services for September & October

Morning Prayer Service of the Word will take place on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 10.00 am in St. Doulagh's and 11.30 am in St. Andrew's. Holy Communion will be celebrated on 2nd and 4th Sundays at 10.00 am in St. Doulagh's and 11.30 am in St. Andrew's.

An alternative Zoom service will be provided at 10.30 am each Sunday.

Full details of the services and the link for the Zoom connection will be distributed by email every Thursday from the Parish Office.

Contacts

Pastoral Care and Support

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Churchwardens

St. Andrew's

Linda Barry
Graeme Tarbox

St. Doulagh's

John Chambers
Alan Jones

Tom's Plot

Many of you may not be aware that the churchyards at St. Andrew's Church and St. Doulagh's Church are meticulously and lovingly cared for by Tom Delaney and his son Ruairi. Tom takes care of the old churchyard at St. Doulagh's, while Ruairi looks after St. Andrew's churchyard and the church surroundings.



Ruairi took over the role from our late sexton Bob Turner who passed on his many years of expertise and knowledge to ensure that the churchyard would be properly maintained into the future.

I have known Tom for many years or to coin a well-worn phrase "For more years that I care to remember!!"

Around 10 years ago he enquired if he could have permission to voluntarily tidy up the right side of the churchyard, the area stretching from the shed to the back wall. Needless to say, there was no objection to this request, as the area was an unsightly mass of clay, rocks and weeds which had accumulated over years.

Tom had the vision he could clean up the area, levelling the ground, removing debris and weeds and plant shrubs and flowers that some of his clients were discarding for various reasons.

After years of hard work, the transformation is now almost complete with a large number of plants/shrubs installed and thriving in a neatly levelled off banked area. The colourful display during the summer, supporting wildlife, greatly adds to the appearance, calm and serenity and tidiness of our churchyard. What was once a derelict and untidy side of the churchyard, with considerable effort and rescuing discarded plants, has now been totally rejuvenated.

Recently in a conversation with Tom, he raised the question with me whether this part of the churchyard might eventually be used to accommodate more graves. I reflected on the query and replied that it would be unlikely that either of us would be around to see that decision being made. Tom agreed, adding that we may have to look down to see the eventual outcome!!



Next time you are at St. Andrew's, take a walk into the churchyard and see Tom's plot, and by the way, if you are discarding garden material, let Tom know as he may have a second life for your unwanted items.

Brian Brown



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St. Andrew's Recipe

FLAVOURS OF THE WORLD



MONGOLIA

MONGOLIAN BEEF

Ingredients:

- 500g beef cut into thin strips
- Cornstarch (for coating)
- 2 tablespoons coconut oil (or any oil)
- 2 teaspoons ground or fresh ginger
- 1 tablespoon ground or fresh garlic
- ½ cup of soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons hoisin sauce (oyster sauce works well too)
- A pinch of salt and pepper
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- ½ cup brown sugar
- Chilli optional
- 3 bunches spring onions



Method:

1. Lightly coat beef in cornstarch and shake well to remove excess
2. Add the oil to a hot wok and stir-fry the beef until it's fully cooked. Remove the beef and put it in a bowl. Discard nearly all of the oil, but make sure you still have about 2 tablespoons left.
3. Add the ginger and garlic to the wok and fry for about 30 seconds (skip this if you're using powder form). Add the soy sauce, hoisin sauce, salt and pepper to taste, cornstarch, brown sugar and chilli (if you want) and fry until it's bubbling but NOT burned.
4. Add the beef into the wok and fry until it's warmed through. Remove from the heat and add the spring onions.
5. Serve with fresh rice or noodles.

Enjoy!

A Prayer.....Tears Shed in Hospitals

Father we offer to you the tears shed in hospitals:

The tears of parents for their dying child, the anguish of a cot-death and the anger against the drunken driver.

The tears of families losing a loved one, the fears of those who do not want to die, the frustrations of those who do, but whose time has not yet come.

The tears brought by bad news, and the anxieties of waiting, tears caused by pain, or the results of major surgery, the tears of those who watch and of those who can only wait.

The tears of hospital staff, the junior doctor who experiences the limitations of time and resources, the senior nurse who acknowledges her own vulnerability.

But Father, not all tears in hospital are sad.

We give you thanks for the tears of parents who gaze in awe and wonder at their new-born child.

For the tears of those who realise anew, the upholding love and affection, of their family and friends.

For the tears of those who recovering from their illness, go on their way rejoicing.

For the tears of those whose hearts are filled with love and gratitude towards you.

For the tears of those who feel unable to express their emotions in any other way.

Father, as Jesus wept, so we pray
That you will accept through him, the tears of all of us who weep. **Amen**

Rev. Kingsley Long

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