

NEW YEAR... NEW TARGETS....NEW EXPERIENCES.... Interested in walking the Camino de Santiago while fundraising for Diabetes Ireland this year or maybe you a more experienced hiker and are interested in tackling the Tour du Mont Blanc? If so please contact Diabetes Ireland on 01 842 8118 or email gary.brady@diabetes.ie to receive a full brochure on these charity fundraising trips. Information also available on www.diabetes.ie.

The Year of Matt Talbot: 2015 is the 90th Anniversary of Venerable Matt Talbot, who died in 1925. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Sean MacDermott Street, which hosts his mortal remains, is holding a number of events during the coming year to celebrate his legacy. It will launch the 'Year of Matt Talbot' with a Novena Mass at his Shrine on Sunday 25th January at 3pm, and the opening of an exhibition illustrating his life.

Primary school teacher available to give grinds in all curricular areas/and help with homework €25 p/hr.
Contact Gráinne 087 7659216

Expressing the Creative Spirit Tuesday 10 February 2015 at 3pm, four week course with Colm Brophy We rely a lot on words but sometimes they are not enough: our inner lives, our feelings, our consciousness often need other forms of expression. These four afternoons present an opportunity to free our inner creative spirits by looking at and creating images, by considering how feelings, thoughts and memories are brought to life by what we see. Please reg by 2 Feb. Contact Manresa 833 1352

Want to make a difference? Give a child the gift of reading....
Barnardos is looking for adults aged 55 years and older with time on their hands, lots of life experience and an enjoyment of reading, for a volunteer reading programme to be rolled out in 9 primary schools in Finglas, Dublin 11 during 2015. Volunteers will provide one-to-one reading sessions to children in 1st and 2nd class who need some extra help with their reading. The sessions occur 2 to 3 times a week during primary school hours. Some of the volunteers who have worked with us have said: "It's enjoyable and very easy", "It is like reading with your grandchildren", "It's not as difficult as you might imagine!", "Children love it and feel special and you bond with the child". For more information or to register please contact Suzanne Connolly, Barnardos Volunteer Service, on 01 7080431 or email volunteers@barnardos.ie

Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to parishlink@gmail.com or dropped into the Parish Office letter-box, marked 'Parish Link', by 5pm on the Thursday of week of publication. A contact name and phone number is required for each item.

Parish Link contact: Ann 087 6728761

Parish Office Opening Times: Monday to Friday 9.30am. - 12.30pm.

Ph: 8308257 or email saintcolumba@eircom.net

Visit Parish website at www.ionaroadparish.ie or email info@ionaroadparish.ie

PARISH



LINK

Issue No 22/03

Parish of St. Columba

January 25th 2015

Catholic Schools Week – 25 January to 1 February 2015

Catholic Schools Week has been celebrated in Ireland for the last five years. This annual event calls on Catholic schools to give expression in a special way to a particular aspect of Catholic education.

This theme of Catholic Schools Week 2015 is 'Catholic Schools: Called to Serve' and this complements 2015 being the Year of Consecrated Life.

This call to serve comes from Christ himself. Jesus is called 'teacher' on forty-six occasions in the Gospels. It is the title most commonly associated with him by his first followers. So what did Jesus teach? In the villages, hills and valleys of Galilee he taught the people that the reign of God was dawning in their midst. He spoke of the reign of God as healing for the sick, hearing for the deaf, new sight for the blind, freedom for prisoners and good news for the poor.

All Christians are called to serve their brothers and sisters. This means helping them to stand up and walk on their own, exorcising their fear of the unknown and expanding their minds through education. It entails feeding them when they are too weak to feed themselves, opening their eyes to the reality of life, challenging them to let go of hurts and prejudice, and liberating those who are unjustly oppressed. It involves introducing them to ever-greater horizons of transcendence and beauty. This is how we continue the healing ministry of Jesus so that 'the blind see again, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, the good news is proclaimed to the poor' (Lk 7:22).

Catholic schools are called to serve also. This year's theme 'Catholic Schools: Called to Serve' lends itself to examine what we understand by service and who it is our schools serve. To this end, Catholic education is called to self-reflect and refresh its mission.

Serve, as a word, is a call to action. As a concept, to serve is an integral element of Jesus' mission in the Gospels. Education is a platform from which all are called to serve – parents, teachers, students, community and the wider world. In particular, Catholic schools place at the centre of their ethos an identity with the mission of Jesus Christ, who continually calls all who hear his voice to serve.

Mission Statement

St. Columba's parish is a vibrant and welcoming community of faith, continuing to give practical witness to the Good News of Christ, through worship and reflection, and through Christian service to the community.



Parish Pilgrimage

St. Mel's Cathedral, Longford
Tuesday 17th February 2015
 Spiritual Director Rev. Patrick Jones P.P.
 Coach leaves church at 10.15 a.m.
 Cost (inc coach, meals, tips etc.) €50
 Tickets will be available before and
 after all the Masses this weekend.

Iona Active Retirement

New members are always welcome to the monthly meeting and to cards and bingo on Tuesday and Wednesday. In future the monthly meeting will be on the first Thursday of the month. Thursday 5th February: Monthly meeting at 10.15 a.m. in the Annex.

Circle Dance Meditation

Monday 2 February 2015 at 3pm, four week course with Barbara Perry (fortnightly). Our lives can be fragmented by the challenges of stressful living. Sacred Dance can help bring about a greater integration and harmony between heart, body, mind and spirit. With its roots in the European classical and folk-dance traditions, dancing in circles to beautiful and inspiring music can help develop a sense of community and offer moments of deep inner stillness and peace. Dancing circles can be inclusive, enjoyable - and fun! Please register by 26 January— Manresa, Jesuit Centre of Spirituality, 426 Clontarf Road, Dollymount, 01 833 1352

Mass of Healing and Anointing of the Sick

Archbishop Martin is celebrating Mass of the Sick in St. Canice's Church, Finglas Village, Dublin 11 on Sunday 8th February at 3.00 pm For further information or to arrange travel for those wishing to attend, please contact the parish office on: 01 8343110 Or Email:

www.stcanicesfinglas.com

Diocesan Prayer Book: The Dublin Diocesan World Day of the Sick Committee has published an updated version of their very popular prayer book - *'I Am With You'* (Psalm 90). For those experiencing suffering and illness, and for those caring for the sick. Of use for the sick and carers, and for personal prayer. Information on the [Catholic Bishops website](http://www.catholicbishops.ie)

Parish Mass Times and Mass Intentions

Sat 24th Jan 6.00pm Denis Boland Jnr. (A), Doyle Family (A)
 Alice Lacy (months mind)
 John King (months mind)
 Sun 25th Jan 11.00am Frank Kirwan (A)
 Mon 26th Jan 9.30am Nora Salter
 Tues 27th Jan 9.30am
 Weds 28th Jan 9.30am
 Thurs 29th Jan 9.30am
 Fri 30th Jan 9.30 am

Sunday morning Mass @ 9.45am in Glasnevin Cemetery Chapel

Mass Times in the Monastery of St. Alphonsus

Tuesday to Friday @ 5.45 pm. Saturday morning @ 9.30 am. and Sunday morning at 9.30am

Baptisms: For all baptisms please contact Sr. Bridget through the Parish Office @ 830 8257.



The Glasnevin Grouping of Parishes is organising an 8 day Tour and Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Fr. Kieran O' Mahony from Wed 15th-Thurs 23rd April 2015. Will include visits to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea and Galilee. Cost: €1,595 per person sharing including return flights and airport taxes, 8 nights dinner and B&B in four-star hotels, coach transfers, entrance fees, gratuities and local guide. Travel insurance and single supplement is extra. Booking forms can be downloaded from Map Travel (www.maptravel.ie) and are also available from the Glasnevin parish office, Tel. 01 8379445

Thought for the day

The journey of life inevitably brings up the question what should I be, who should I become?
 Is life a maze or a labyrinth, that is, does all the effort lead somewhere, is there a goal?
 How will I be as a spouse, a parent, a partner, a church member?
 Within the Christian project, do I feel myself called to "activate" my baptism is some particular ministry or contribution?
 Such discernment will take in the grateful acknowledgement of my gifts as well as an examination of my inner generosity of spirit.
 In reality, we are all called by the Lord to build up the body of Christ. *It is not a question of if but rather of how!*

"Understanding the Teenage Years"
A Six week course!
Art & Business Campus
40 Lower Drumcondra Road.
Wednesday 4th February
7.30-9.30pm
To book a place
Call 0877999474