

Mount Merrion

# PARISH NEWS

## PARISH CONTACTS

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## PARISH WEBSITE

[www.mountmerrionparish.ie](http://www.mountmerrionparish.ie)



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## THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

China has a population of 1.3 billion people, of these only about 30 million are Christians with 12 million being Catholic. Visiting there during November I was surprised to see Christmas decorations being hung and cuddly Santas on sale. I asked about this, wondering if they really celebrated Christmas, like we do. I discovered that they have just taken one aspect of Christmas, giving and receiving gifts, while gathering for food and shared family time. I'm sure that brings great joy and many blessings.



Still, I can't quite imagine Christmas without the celebration of the Nativity. From the moment the first card is written or received, when the crib is taken down from the attic and assembled, when the card from the parish with all the arrangements arrives, we are making ready for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. I know they start fierce early but the Christmas Carols on radio and TV, in shops and streets probably help us tune into the simple story that we know so well. The message of an angel, the courage of Mary, the generosity of Joseph, the journey to Bethlehem and the Inn which turned them away. The child born and wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in the manger, the shepherds coming to joyfully greet him, the angels' song and the joy of the mother, all of this is written deep within us.

From our childhood we have been wrapped up in this story and with our families, parishes, schools and friends we make time for this celebration. The spirit of Christmas seeps into even the most hardened heart and awakes a joy that God alone can give.

I wish you and all you love a joyful and faith filled Christmas and invite you to join with the parish community for prayer and worship during the year ahead.

**Fr. Joe Mullan**



# PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

## Hello!

It's that time of year again! We celebrate birth and reflect on the year that's almost over.

Each year brings its highs of happiness and its lows of sadness. We've had both this year. We mourned Fr. Tony's passing but we are also filled with the faith and hope that he lived so fully. We welcome Fr. Joe and look forward to new beginnings.

This issue of the Parish News reflects parish life over the last six months and we hope you enjoy reading about it!

Wishing you a very happy Christmas!

**The Editorial Team**

Dear Parishoners

There is a small Monastery at Bethlehem, just feet away from a high, grey concrete wall designed to keep the local communities of Jerusalem and Bethlehem apart. On this wall unexpectedly is an Icon of Mary, as expectant mother, gently waiting for her Son. Beautiful, serene, peaceful. An earthly and Cosmic event is happening. Advent is a time of waiting. It can be a time of reflection on our own faith journey. How are we doing? A time for looking inwards to our hearts. How is God speaking to us? Are we listening? Have we through busyness, or some other cause, created a wall in our heart? Waiting can be about creating and holding sacred space, journeying at times on our own and at other times with others.



We see how Mary journeyed without hesitation to her cousin Elizabeth on learning she too was with child. May we pause in quietness as we wait for the coming of our blessed Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas time. And, may He come to us, not only this Christmas, but in each moment of our hearts.

We wish you and your family a blessed, peaceful and Holy Christmas as Emmanuel comes amongst us.

**Mount Merrion Pastoral Parish Council**

**CARING  
FOR THE  
EARTH**



**Have a Joyous,  
Eco-Friendly  
Christmas**



Clodagh, Justin Kilcullen & Audrey

In November, Justin Kilcullen, as convenor of Shankill's ecumenical climate action group (SAGE), gave a very interesting talk on how parishes are responding to climate change. The chair of Social Justice Ireland and former Trocaire CEO, highlighted Climate Change's social, energy, and biodiversity impact, giving examples of how SAGE's response includes personal reflection, church-related activities, public awareness-raising, education, and networking. Those attending the talk discussed the issues enthusiastically and hope to engage with the next steps in becoming an "eco-parish".

<https://laudatosi.com>  
[www.ecocongregationireland.com](http://www.ecocongregationireland.com)

**FOUNDING PARISHES**



Members of the PPC spent a day of reflection and calm in Clonliffe College with other PPC's of Dublin diocese – with attention on the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Parish Pastoral Council:**

Fr. Joe Mullan (*President*), Audrey O'Sullivan (*Chairperson*), John Barry (*Secretary*), Clodagh O'Reilly-Boyles, Jennifer Kelly, Kay O'Donnell, Martina McFadian, Susanne O'Reilly.



# SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE – HAITI SUMMER PROJECTS

*"Haiti is in the midst of a humanitarian crisis."*

Many of you will remember that unfortunately Solèy Haiti had to defer our July 2019 Summer Volunteer programme due to the protests and uncertainty on the ground in Haiti. Over the last year or so there has been a recurring cycle of protest in Haiti sparked by ongoing anger at the current government. At the core of the frustration for the people is that in an already desperately impoverished country, there has been a significant increase in the cost of living that is driving people into more and more desperate conditions. Alongside the struggle day to day of the people, political corruption emerged as a target of that frustration.

I have been travelling to Haiti since 2006, on 19 separate occasions, and I have never known Haiti to experience a situation as dire as currently exists. In my eyes, Haiti is in the midst of a humanitarian crisis and Haitians are struggling to survive day to day.

All too often the Haitian people are forgotten by the media, and one of the most important contributions we can make in many ways is to bring awareness to the current situation in Haiti. Equally however I know you will be reading this in the midst of the Christmas season – a season of hope, positivity, kindness and generosity. If I could choose four words to describe the experience each time we are welcomed into the parishes of Mount Merion and Kilmacud it would be those. **The collections in total this year raised €10,000.41.** A truly phenomenal amount. 100% of these funds will go directly to the costs of running the summer camps where 650 of the poorest kids of the area attend camp, 70 Haitians are employed, more than 26,000 meals are served; an incredible impact to the most needy and



vulnerable people in the world, an impact that would not happen without your support. Please God the July 2020 programme will be with our volunteers on the ground.

**Words seem woefully inadequate relative to the level of gratitude I feel and the impact your contributions will**



**make but nonetheless on behalf of Solèy Haiti, thank you.**

It was difficult to return to the parishes for the first time since Fr. Tony had passed away. Fr. Tony was one of my very best friends and had an immeasurable impact on my life personally as he did with so many. I feel a deep responsibility towards the people of Haiti in terms of working on their behalf; but knowing how much Haiti and its people meant to Fr. Tony, this sense of responsibility or the meaning behind it has moved to a whole other level. Being able to return and carry on the work of Fr. Tony keeps his spirit and legacy alive in such a powerful, meaningful and impactful way and on a personal level it means the absolute world.

I want to finish not with my words but with those of Fr. Tony's and what I feel is one of the most powerful things he ever said. I remember him talking about life, facing his diagnosis and that it is about choice and he said, "You can choose to live, and you do life, or choose to exist and life gets done to you". What an incredible message of hope and I believe that is the lens through which we must look at Haiti, even in the current awful situation they face. We have a choice; say it is too much, too difficult and let Haitians continue to 'exist' as they currently are or take the Fr. Tony way – do whatever we can to help Haitians to 'live' the life they deserve.

On behalf of Solèy Haiti I want to wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Patrick O'Neill,  
Chairperson, Solèy Haiti**





# Your Parish Needs your € Support

You are welcome to contribute to our parish, especially if you are new to the parish or like to attend for those very special occasions.

## The Heritage – and the Challenge!

As a parish we are lucky to have a long tradition of financial support from our parishioners. This support has made it possible not only to build the church back in the early 1950's but to provide ongoing funding for parish running expenses. This funding has also paid for services to enhance our liturgical services – especially at those special occasions, including Christmas and Easter – and faith development initiatives.

However, as our demographics change and many of our older parishioners pass on, the continuation of this heritage falls to the young(er) generation. With falling church attendances and an ageing parish community this is becoming more challenging.

**You don't need to attend the church on a regular basis to make a regular contribution!**

## How is the parish financed?

### ● Funds transferred to the Archdiocese

You may be surprised to know that the two collections at Sunday Mass as well as the Christmas and Easter Dues are transferred directly to the Archdiocese. The first collection at Sunday Mass contributes towards the salaries of all the priests of the Diocese. The second collection contributes to the running costs of the Diocese, including the Child Safeguarding Office, as well as other services and supports to parishes in need.

### ● Funds retained by the parish

So, the only money collected which remains in the parish is the regular contributions (Family Offering / envelopes), donations, shrine offerings, Parish Shop profits and Parish Centre. These funds are used for parish expenses and to enhance our liturgical services and faith development.

## An invitation to contribute

If you are not currently contributing, and are in a position to do so, we are inviting you to contribute to the parish. Or if you would consider increasing your current contribution it would be most welcome. It's easy and can be done as follows:

## How to Contribute

1

### Standing Order Form

Available at the back of the church, from Parish Office or download from our website.

2

### Parish Website

Online donation via 'Donate' button on home page.

3

### Bank Transfer

To the parish bank account. Parish of St. Thérèse, Account No.: 47669173, Sort Code: 93 35 70, AIB Stillorgan, IBAN: IE 08 AIBK 93357047669173.

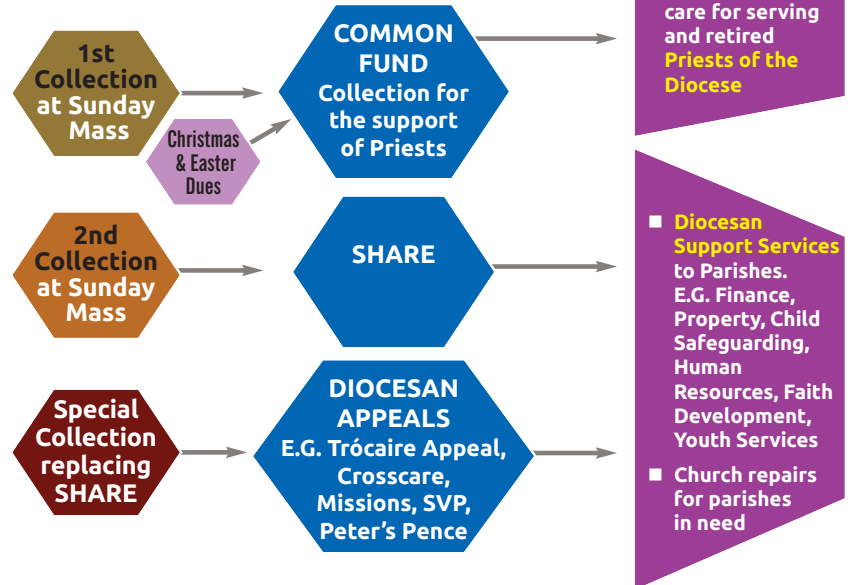
4

### Legacy Gift

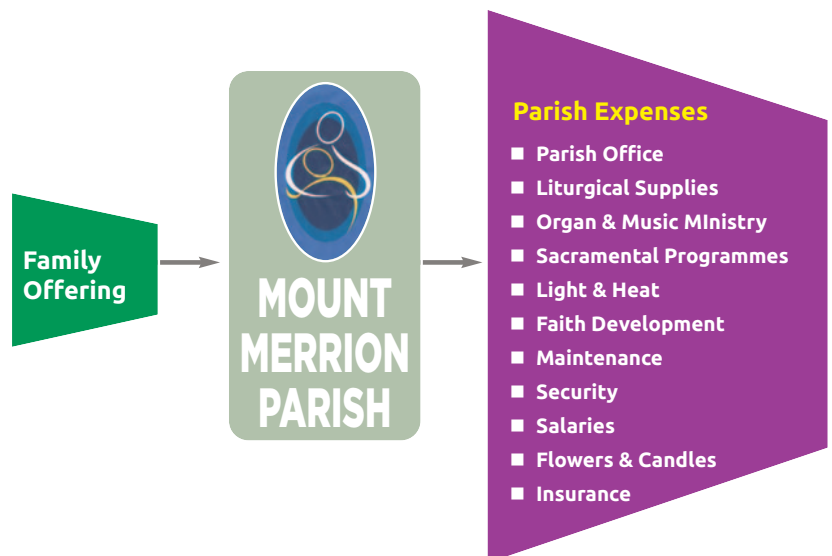
Remember the Parish in your Will.

## Sunday Mass Collections, Christmas & Easter Dues

All these collections on Sunday leave the parish.



## Where your contributions to the Parish go...



## The Tax Effect...

Remember if your total annual contribution is greater than €250 per year (€21 per month) the parish can benefit from the Revenue tax refund arrangements. This is a very important source of income every year – in 2018 it amounted to in excess of €50k. But we can only claim it, if the contributions are made...

## A Special Thanks to Existing Contributors

A special thanks to those parishioners who responded to the appeal earlier this year for Family Offerings – both new contributors and existing contributors who increased their contributions.

If you have any queries, just email or call to the Parish Office (details on the front page).

With many thanks for your contributions,

Parish Finance Committee



# PARISH GROUPS IN ACTION

## FAITH SPACE SUMMER & AUTUMN

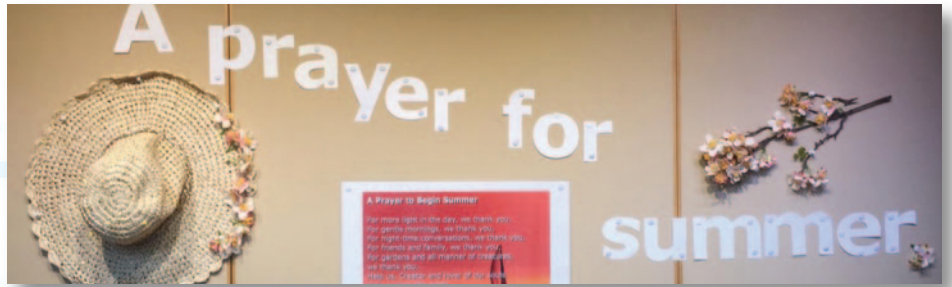
The approach of summer inevitably means exam time looms, so to support all our students we invited parishioners to write a student's name on a label and pin it to the Faith Space wall so they could be supported by our prayers. As an extra "study aid", we provided bookmarks with an Exam Prayer, an offer always well received!



Summertime itself is usually a quiet time in the Faith Space, and so we installed a Prayer for Summer, including an image of a sailing boat. We have previously used a sailing boat image as a metaphor for faith: the ship of faith, setting out on a journey, navigating through challenges, experiencing changing horizons. It also features in the Parish Tapestry which hangs near the Chapel of St. Thérèse, where it represents Fr. Tony's faith journey at the time of his Silver Jubilee in 2017.

Little did we know that within a few short weeks we would again use the ship to mark the death of Fr. Tony. There was so much we could have said, but kept it simple by including a copy of the Litany of Thanksgiving, written by Fr. Tony. This is such a positive affirmation of life and love that we felt it represented his own approach to life and reminds us to be likewise.

As Autumn approached, we thought it was time for Christian reflection on our responsibility to care for our planet and all of God's creation. Laudate Si, Pope Francis' encyclical is part of the current



zeitgeist, and links back to the series of talks given last autumn by Fr. Donal Dorr S.J. We asked the question: what did YOU do??

We created a cobweb, representing both the strength and delicacy of creation, and added images of the positive and negative effects made by all of us.



November is always the month of remembering those who have died. As a change from the Circle of Remembrance we used in previous years, we converted the cobweb into the Web of Remembrance. Parishioners were then invited to pin a leaf onto the web and pray for the beloved deceased. By the end of November, the Web was festooned with leaves!

Advent transformed the Web again, this time to a network of stars with suggestions for actions and reflections to focus on the Coming of Christ. On Christmas Day, the Web will be sparkling with the Star of Christmas!

**The Faith Space Group**

### Litany of Thanksgiving

*adapted by Fr. Tony*

God of Love, we thank you for the many ways we have been given a touch of your goodness.  
**We thank you.**

For the love that draws us to friendship and fidelity.  
**We thank you.**

For love that leads us to kindness and compassion.  
**We thank you.**

For love that draws us towards the sacred and the serene.  
**We thank you.**

For love that soothes our heartaches and gentles our pain.  
**We thank you.**

For love that sees the worth and beauty in each human being.  
**We thank you.**

For love that reaches out in forgiveness. **We thank you.**

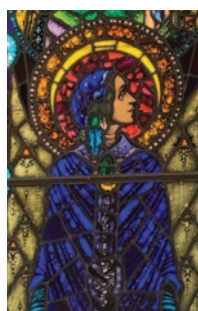
For love that offers the hand of warm welcome. **We thank you.**

For love that urges us to take risks and have courage.  
**We thank you.**

For love that is tenderness.  
**We thank you.**

## LITURGY

At this time of year, we turn our attention to the Advent & Christmas liturgies, planning for the the Advent Carol Service on December 15th at 4pm and the joint parish Reconciliation Service on December 16th at 7.30pm. Then, as the New Year fast approaches, we look forward to the Diocesan Peace Mass, welcoming Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin on January 1st and the celebration of the Feastday of St. Brigid in February.



We pray Lord,  
that as we undertake our service in this parish,  
that you guide us always,  
and send your Holy Spirit among us,  
to remind each of us that all we do is done in your name  
for the building of your kingdom on this earth.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen



# LOVE WHILE YOU CAN – An Advent Journey

HOPE



## 1. HOPE

### Beginning the journey...

"Hope is a delicate and at times fragile quality in our lives. Testing times can strengthen or diminish it. ... Wherever we are, remember that goodness is within us and lets us be bearers of hope." **Fr. Tony**

"I feel now that I am aboard a fast train with only one stop. I'm not in a mad hurry to disembark. I'm like everyone else; I only know this world and this life, but I see no meaning in this life ending in a grave."

"When the train stops, I will step onto that platform with hope and no fear." **Fr. Tony**

"Tony was for us a Prophet of Hope – a prophet of hope who enthusiastically shared with us his love of Jesus of Nazareth." **Fr. John Kelly**



## 2. PEACE

"Let's give each other a break! Let us try earnestly to live as Jesus has showed us. Let's be merciful with our words and by our actions." **Fr. Tony**

"Light has come into our world. Let us all reach out to stand in its glow and bring it from here to others." **Fr. Tony**

"Tony showed all of us how strength can be witnessed even in the face of human weakness. His courage leaves all of us more humble. May the Lord welcome & give him the deep peace to which he witnessed in his suffering." **Archbishop Diarmuid Martin**



## 3. JOY

"On this pilgrimage walk – what became his road to Golgotha – Tony's sense of fun and humour was infectious and he would often say that laughter was the only thing that made him feel normal." **Fr. John Kelly**

"As Jesus said 'I have come that you may have life and have it to the full.'" **Fr. John Kelly**



## 4. LOVE

"Tony's vision was of a community of believers where those who suffer and are troubled or who fall into sin and distress or who feel abandoned are never rejected but are encountered with love and mercy and support." **Archbishop Diarmuid Martin**

Tony represented the love of God to so many who bore in their heart troubles and doubts. He could do that because he understood what that love of God meant. **Archbishop Diarmuid Martin**

"In his ministry, for me, Jesus displayed three major qualities; inclusivity, compassion and love. It should always be understood that the only commandment that Jesus gave was about love; Love one another as I have loved you." **Fr. Tony**



Love  
Not  
Judgement



## THE CHRIST CANDLE THE COMING OF THE LORD

Let us take the invitation of Jesus today and be a light – where it matters most, in our homes, in how we deal with our families, among our friends and where we work, study or play. **Fr. Tony**

Don't be afraid, and trust in Jesus. Why? Because he promised he would rise from the dead and he did. All our human striving will eventually be rewarded in heaven. So let us let go of fear and worry, and start to trust. **Fr. Tony**

"Let us be conscious of any way we can reach out to another, with sensitivity and compassion. We are all fellow travellers on the road to the Kingdom." **Fr. Tony**

COMPASSION  
LOVE  
INCLUSIVITY

"Tony died as he wished, with his nearest and dearest present, in his own room, in his own home, in the heart of his parishes. He was aware and unafraid, it felt very complete..."

"His wish for us now would be:

Wednesday  
28th August 2019

**Fr Tony Coote RIP**

"LOVE WHILE YOU CAN.  
LIVE WHILE YOU CAN"

The Coote Family



In the hope, peace, joy and love of Advent we pray;  
for all that has been... **THANK YOU!**  
for all that will be... **YES!**



# BEHIND THE SCENES



Altar Linens



Maintenance Crew



Candle Cleaning

In "The Story of a Soul" St. Thérèse of Lisieux describes how, as a very young nun she was given temporary responsibility for the Sacristy when most of the Community were laid low with flu.

"I had the privilege" she writes, "of handling the sacred vessels and preparing the altar linens to receive Our Lord."

This is what the Sacristans and the Linen section of the Altar Society do. Sacristans are like Assistant Stage Managers or Theatre Nurses in a hospital, making sure that everything that is required for the task in hand – in this case, the proper celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments – is in place. Their unobtrusively efficient service is an essential part of the liturgical life of the parish. The members of the Altar Linen Group ensure that the altar cloths and smaller items of linen are always pristine. Their work is worship in action.

There are other examples of unobtrusive service in and around our church. We have the two groups of "Tuesday Warriors" – the maintenance team who garden and look after the fabric of the church, and the cleaning group who ensure that the House of God is always comfortable and welcoming. Cleanliness can enhance godliness.

The word "privilege" can have negative connotations. But as St. Thérèse used it, in the context of Service of the Lord, we can see that as a parish community, we are indeed privileged. Thank God.

**A big 'Thank You' to all past and present volunteers who serve in our Parish.**



Brass Plate Cleaning



Aim High!

## Mass for the Bereaved

On the 1st & 2nd November last, parishioners were invited to light candles at any of the 6 shrines in the church in memory of family members and friends. In this way, all parishioners can unite in remembering their loved ones and friends who have died.

On Sunday 3rd November, families of parishioners from Mount Merrion who were bereaved in the last year were invited to attend a special Mass for the bereaved. This was preceded by a Candle of Light Ceremony following morning Masses to commemorate those who died. A large candle in a storm lantern was lit before morning Mass that day. After Mass the celebrant and Funeral Ministers took the candle and plants to the Garden of Remembrance in the Church grounds where short prayers were said at the commemorative stone.

Bereaved families expressed their gratitude to the Team members for enabling them to come together in their parish community to remember their loved ones.







## Sister Marie Dunne and her Music Ministry

Sister Marie Dunne speaks of a special affinity with St. Thérèse of Lisieux, and it was a happy occasion when Marie joined us at the Church of St. Thérèse, a year ago, as Parish Choir Director. She responded to an invitation by Fr. Tony to take up this role. Marie, a Sister of the Holy Faith Congregation, is well known in the Diocese of Dublin as a musical director, organist, and for her faith ministry.

While her background has been in teaching (including some years as School Principal) and in Chaplaincy, it is her music ministry that is central to her life. For 30 years, Marie has been a composer of liturgical music, often for national and international events, and for a number of other Religious Congregations, especially for the St. John of God Order, where she is particularly involved in their Services – providing music for people suffering with dementia, while supporting children living with a life limiting condition, through music. Marie has also been directing the St. John of God Choir for over 30 years which comprises of staff and volunteers.

Marie has also composed music for Knock, Saint Francis' Hospice, Vocations' Ireland and many more. She has been involved with the National Missing



Persons Helpline and composed the song "A Candle for You" to remember missing persons.

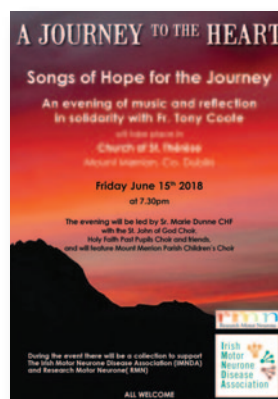
Occasionally, Marie likes to celebrate her music as part of a choral concert. In 2018, one of these events was themed "A Celebration of Belonging" to mark the World Meeting of Families. In June of the same year, she organised "A Journey to the Heart", – an

event at our Church in solidarity with Fr. Tony and MND (Motor Neurone Disease Association).

As part of her faith ministry, Marie also facilitates days/evenings of prayer and reflection.

As mentioned, Marie has been with our parish choir for almost a year. During that year, Marie organised the music for Fr. Tony's funeral, which for her was particularly poignant as Marie had known Tony for many years, and it is because of his invitation, that she is now in this role.

Marie been inspiring both the Choir and Congregation with her music, and



particularly with two of her Mass settings, "Mass of Providence" and "Mass of Faith", in addition to the regular church repertoire familiar to many. As she moves forward in this role in our parish, Marie's hope is that along with the choir, they will endeavour to be instruments of God's love and kindness through their music – while at the same time, welcoming the participation of the congregation in the singing.

Many of Marie's compositions have been recorded. Her most recent collections are: "Shelter Me", "Ripples of the Divine"; and "In Memory of Me".

Website: [www.mariedunnemusic.com](http://www.mariedunnemusic.com)

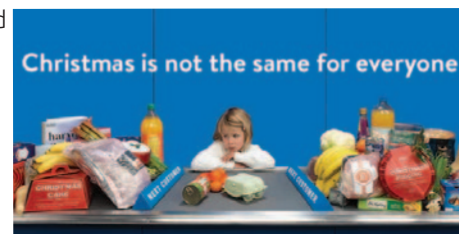


## SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The SVP group in Mount Merrion would like to thank all of you most sincerely for taking us into your hearts and being so thoughtful and generous! Our main fund raising during the year is the monthly outdoor collection and the Christmas Appeal that was held recently.

Children at our local schools provide great help every year with our food hampers from donation, which we distribute to needy families before Christmas.

All this assistance is put to good use! We channel your generosity to those in greatest need in our parish and beyond. Mount Merrion is not immune to problems, sometimes arising unexpectedly, with little or no notice. We reach out to those families in our community who need us. Sometimes we may advise on other local services available. Anyone in our parish, who seeks our help, is visited by two volunteers in a completely discreet and non-judgemental manner. The help we provide is not just financial but is direct, personal assistance based on the needs of the individual or family.



**Our helpline number is 086 600 9857**





## The Children's Choir

As we approach the Christmas season the Parish Children's choir are busy rehearsing their Christmas Hymns and Carols! December is a busy month for us. We sang carols at Union Café on December 1st as the Lights were turned on in Mount Merrion. On December 14th at 3pm we will be carol singing in Stillorgan shopping centre for the Irish Guide Dogs alongside some guide dogs and puppies!

We look forward to our first Christmas with Fr. Joe Mullan. The annual Happy Birthday Baby Jesus on Christmas Eve at 4pm is a lovely way for the children of the parish celebrate Jesus' birthday! They are welcome to bring a card along for Baby Jesus and join the choir singing carols.

As usual the Family Mass on Christmas day will bring the story of the first Christmas to life involving the children of the parish in the live Nativity. To represent the growing diversity of the parish the children will welcome the congregation in the many languages our community now speak.

After Christmas we will continue to focus on our competitive performances and will once again head to the Limerick choral festival at the end of February. We hope to do as well as last year's second place finish in the youth section, and also will be entering the gospel section this year.

**Happy Christmas to everyone from all the Family Mass team and the Choir.**



## The Little Free Library



You may have noticed the unusual wooden cabinet-like structure attached to the wall beside the rear gate to the Community Centre, in The Rise Car Park. That's the Little Free Library (LFL). So, if you are a reader and have a book or two that you would like to exchange, then please bring them up to the LFL and perhaps you will find some you would like to read!

There are Little Free Libraries springing up all over the country and they are becoming very popular. If you have Children or Grandchildren who like to read and have spare books, please encourage them to use it. Its location is safe at the recessed side of the Church Car Park.

*This is a Mount Merrion Residents Association project.*



## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME



### MASSES

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE:** **Tuesday 24th December**

**4pm** "Happy Birthday Jesus" – *Children's Liturgy*

**6pm** Vigil Mass for Christmas – *Lisieux Singers*

**7.30pm** Vigil Mass for Christmas – *Youth Choir*

**9.30pm** Christmas Carols – *Senior Choir*

**10pm** Mass for Christmas Night – *Senior Choir*

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY:** **Wednesday 25th December**

**10am** Mass – *Senior Choir*

**11.15am** Family Mass  
*with Children's Nativity Drama*

#### **ST. STEPHEN'S DAY:** **Thursday 26th December**

**11am** Mass

### RECONCILIATION

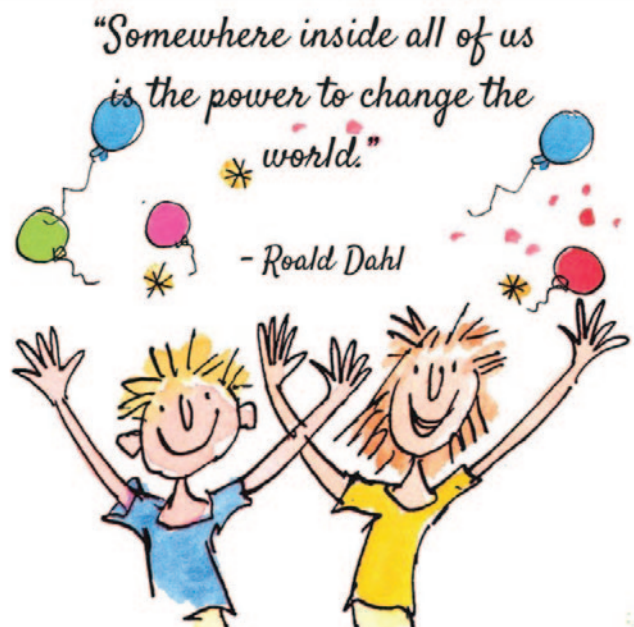
#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation** **Monday 16th December 7.30pm:**

Joint Kilmacud / Mount Merrion / Clonskeagh  
Communal Celebration in the  
Church of St. Thérèse, Mount Merrion

#### **Individual Confessions: Christmas Eve**

**10am-11am & 2pm-3pm**

## JUST FOR FUN!





## Thank You Fr. Brian O'Reilly



We extend our heartfelt thanks to Fr. Brian O'Reilly who has worked tirelessly during the past year to provide masses for the Parish along with the support of many other priests from far and near.

Congratulations on the recent appointment of **Frances Mullin, as Príomhoide of Scoil San Trease and Siobhán McDonagh as Principal of Oatlands Primary School.** Every happiness in your new role.



Frances Mullin



Siobhán McDonagh

Help Reduce Paper Usage!

## OUR NEWSLETTER



Why not sign up to receive the weekly newsletter by Email. Sign on to website **www.mountmerrionparish.ie** Scroll down **homepage** to **NEWSLETTER** and enter your Email address to subscribe!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### FR PETER McVERRY SJ

Reflections on Advent – Message of Christmas  
St Laurence O'Toole Church, Kilmacud  
**Wednesday 11th December @ 7.30pm**

### JOURNEYING TO CHRISTMAS IN SONG

In support of Trócaire Christmas Appeal  
Church of St. Thérèse  
**Sunday 15th December @ 4pm**

### FR BRIAN GROGAN SJ

Reflections on Advent – Hope for the Future  
Mount Merrion Community Centre  
**Tuesday 17th December @ 7.30pm**

### ANNUAL PEACE MASS

Will be Celebrated by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin  
**Wednesday 1st Jan 2020 @ 11.00am**

### MASS FOR THOSE BAPTISED IN THE PARISH DURING 2019

**Sunday 19th January @ 11.15am**

### DO THIS IN MEMORY MASSES

Preparation for First Holy Communion and their families  
**Sunday 15th Dec 2019,**  
**26th January 2020, 15th March, 5th April, 26th April, 14th June 11.15am**

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

#### MOUNT ANVILLE JUNIOR SCHOOL

**Saturday 16th May**  
(Mount Anville School Chapel)

#### SCOIL SAN TREASA

**Saturday 16th May**

#### OATLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Saturday 23rd May**

### CONFIRMATION

**Friday 27th March @ 11.00am**

### PARISH AGM

**May 2020 (date tbc)**

## THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all who contributed to our Christmas Parish News and to our dedicated team of Parish Deliverers. As always we extend a warm welcome to YOU should you wish to volunteer and share your gifts within a Parish Group or if you have ideas to share...

**Have a great Christmas and every blessing during 2020.**

Mount Merrion Parish Communications Team delivers Parish correspondence to all houses in the Parish area unless otherwise advised. If you do **not** wish us to deliver programmes or newsletters please contact the Parish Secretary at (01) 288 1271 or Email: [parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie)