

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL GROUP OF PARISHES.

All Saints' Church, St Michan's Church St Werburgh's Church

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Churches re-open Sunday 5th July 2020 and welcome a return to worship while following safety guidelines.

11th June 2020.

Volume 1, Issue 8.



CONTACT



Parish Office—(01)

Email:
office@stmichanschurch.ie

The Archdeacon:
087-2630402
Email:
pierpoint.david@gmail.com

The Curate:
087-9892941
Email:
stylesross@gmail.com

As I sit and write this morning, we are finally advancing on our path to really easing the lockdown. Shops have reopened and soon shopping centres too will be able to reopen. People have increased opportunities to travel and to see loved ones that they may not have seen in months. Our country is opening up, though unfortunately hairdressers and barbers are not there yet!! And neither are churches, though we have a clear date, 29th June. The bad news is hairdressers are not till July...

So we are gradually beginning to see an end in sight, a clear path has opened up and hope is in the air...

In this morning's gospel reading we hear Jesus sending out people ahead of him on the path to every place that he himself was going to go.

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest

Jesus sends out the twelve to exercise authority over every spirit and every condition that oppresses God's children. They are sent out in pairs for safety and for reassurance and support. It is still a common sight today for Mormon's or Jehovah's witnesses to come to the door in pairs. A friend

always said the easiest way to confuse them was to invite them in! Yet as Anglicans, this approach to mission is uncomfortable for us. Jesus tells them not to tarry on the road, and when they enter a house, to say peace to this house. If the household responds and shares in the peace, then they are to remain there and share in their food, eating whatever they are given.

One aspect that strikes me about this passage from Matthew's gospel is the underlying sense of urgency. The harvest must be gathered quickly, a concept that most of us are distant from now, but there can be no delay. Jesus tells the seventy not to talk to people on the road but rather go straight to their destinations. Our shared experiences from Covid-19 has brought about a collective reflection on the way we live, on what is important to us, the value of loved ones and relationships. In a way the lockdown has led us to recognise that sense of urgency in our own lives, the need to live a full and worthwhile life, to follow a clearer and more uncluttered path. It has shown us the importance of community and human kindness.

It is through us that others can encounter God's love. The seventy that Jesus sent out are an example to us all. This is most definitely not solely the remit of bishops or ordained clergy. Living a life of faith, sharing it with others and teaching that message of love in Christ's teachings is for all, it is something that should unite us all as Christians, no matter what denomination.

Yes we feel uncomfortable knocking on people's doors in pairs to spread the Christian message but there are countless other ways, sometimes just small acts of kindness, a friendly word, being living examples of our faith, being honest with ourselves and with the world. If we have learned anything from the Covid-19 pandemic, it is the importance of those small acts of kindness, the importance of treating others with love and respect. Yet as world events have shown in recent weeks, this is not always the case.

God created us all, he loves us all equally, no matter who we are or where we come from. As we step out of the gloom of lockdown, as we emerge into a changed world, let us remember, sow and share the great gift that we have been given, God's love. That is truly a worthwhile harvest.

God bless,

Ross

Dear parishioners and friends,

Well the good news is that both St Michan's and All Saints' churches will be re-opening for worship on 5th July.

As I write this, I have just returned from a two-and-half-hour meeting with the archdeacon of Glendalough and the Archbishop formulating plans so that worship can be offered to everyone in a sensible and sensitive way and in keeping with current government guidelines. Certain steps need to be put in place in order for any church to re-open for worship on this date and a document will issue the week beginning 15th June giving advice and clear instructions on what is to happen in all churches before worship can commence.

In this regard, I plan to call a meeting of the Select Vestry meeting (for those able and willing to attend) with a two-item agenda. (1) To pass the parish accounts so that they can be sent into the dioceses and of course subject to final approval when the Easter General Vestry meets – whenever that will be! And (2), to discuss the Diocesan instructions for the re-opening of churches. I will

be asking Patricia to send out details of this meeting in due course which will be held in St Michan's Church (not upstairs as is the norm, but in the church itself where social distancing can be maintained). At present I am looking at the date of Wednesday 17th June at 7pm but this may change as other issues emerge.

Both Ross and I are very pleased with the feedback we have received from parishioners and friends on the ongoing recorded services which are available on Youtube ([stmichans Church Dublin](#)) or on facebook ([Christ Church Cathedral Group Dublin](#)) We are so grateful to Declan for his expertise in the production of these videos and his artistic eye especially in the Songs of Praise episode. We have had a few more requests for hymns and these will now be incorporated into the next few Sundays as our final broadcast service will be a Service of Thanksgiving with the archbishop as celebrant and preacher.

In the meantime, do please keep well and stay safe and May God bless you all. Ross and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 5th July.

David

CONGRATULATIONS to

Graham and Lauren Morrisson on the birth of their daughter, Ruby, born on the 14th May 2020. Mother, Father and baby Ruby are all keeping well.

Fran & Helen, as the proud grandparents, are overjoyed with the safe arrival of their first grandchild.

May God bless Ruby and her family.



Craft Corner by *Aisling Sheridan*

As many of you know, I make jewellery and at one stage I found a pile of bead and findings kits in TKMaxx. I've long since used up all the beads but was left with the boxes, which are made of hard plastic that can't be recycled. I hate throwing things out, especially things that won't biodegrade, so I wanted to come up with a way of upcycling them. Anyway, one day I got the brainwave of turning them into small jewellery or trinket boxes, so here are some of the results.

All you need are any kind of small boxes, ideally with different compartments, paper, fabric (felt is perfect) and glue. I'm planning to upcycle some empty moisturiser tins too.

- 1 First give your boxes a good clean and dry.
- 2 Next, cut out some pretty paper or felt or even velvet for the lid – you will need two pieces, one for the outside and one for inside. Glue in place, carefully smoothing out any bubbles.
- 3 Now measure your compartments and cut out paper pieces to fit. Glue in place.
- 4 Finally you can glue felt on the underside of the box and embellish the lid as you please!



Recipe sent in by Ingrid Deegan



STRAWBERRY CAKE IN A MUG

1 EGG

2 TBSP CASTER SUGAR

2 TBSP MILK

20 G MELTED BUTTER

40 G SELF RAISING FLOUR

MIX EGG, BUTTER, SUGAR AND FLOUR

MICROWAVE FOR 2 AND A HALF MINUTES

WHEN READY ADD STRAWBERRY JAM AS YOUR TOPPING OR ANY OTHER FILLING OF YOUR CHOICE

ENJOY!



FUN PAGE:



Sweet Quiz

A mixture of anagrammatical and quizzical clues smothered in a mostly chocolate topping.....

1. US Coin _____
2. Vehicle and a coat _____
3. Evil _____
4. Fierce caged animal _____
5. Tramp _____
6. Dating Agencies _____
7. Occult perhaps! _____
8. Paris in turmoil (anagram) _____
9. Miscellaneous black _____
10. Subject _____
11. Wobbly infants _____
12. Shun mice (anagram) _____
13. The teddy bears had one _____
14. Nine _____
15. Roman God of War! _____
16. Sport for a Prince _____
17. I can't believe its not whisky! _____
18. Keep this quiet _____
19. Wise guys _____
20. Calm ear (anagram) _____
21. Pig's tail perhaps! _____
22. Middle Ages Musicians _____
23. Enrol on a hidden course (anagram) _____
24. Model Feline _____

A book review by Ben Styles

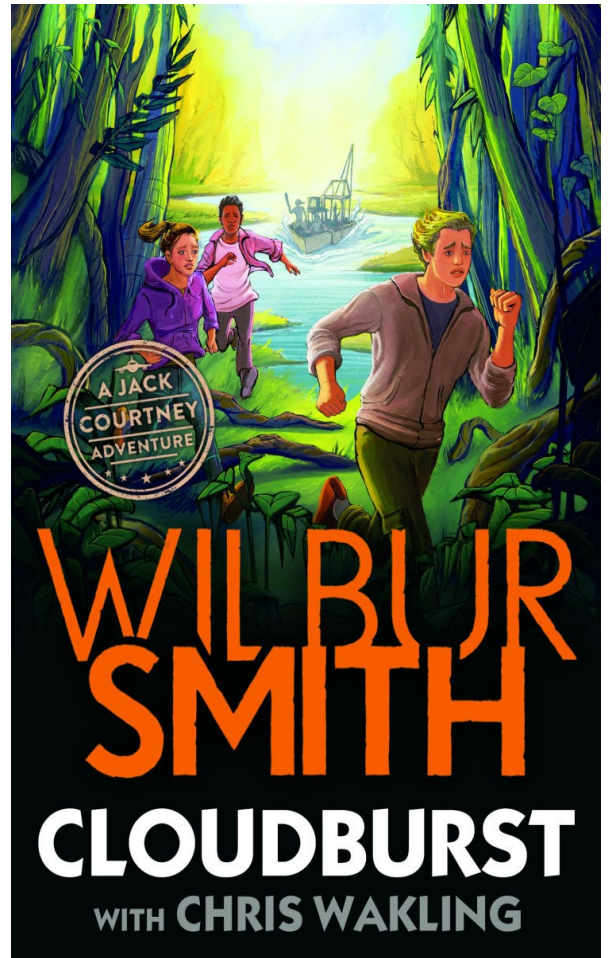
Cloudburst by Wilbur Smith with
Chris Wakling

Wilbur Smith has written lots of books for adults.
This is his first book for kids.

It is a very exciting adventure about a boy called Jack Courtney. Jack lives in London and this summer his parents are going to the Democratic Republic of the Congo for a gorilla conference, and they are bringing Jack and his friends too.

His parents go missing in the rainforest, they are abducted by mercenaries, nobody knows how to find them. Jack thinks that it's got something to do with the nearby tantalum mines and his uncle, but he needs to prove it. So, Jack, Amelia and Xander go searching in the jungle to save his parents. Not only do they have to save Jack's parents they have to save their own lives as well.

In the story there are western gorillas, forest elephants, bandits and mercenaries. It is my favourite book so far this year!



Prayers that we can say together at home:

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

**Heavenly Father,
Faithful and unchanging:
Fill our hearts and minds with the knowledge of your truth,
Draw us more deeply into your love,
So that we may transform our world,
In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever.
Amen.**

A Dog's Bedtime Prayer



Now I lay me down to sleep
The king-sized bed is soft and deep,
I sleep right in the centre groove
My human beings can hardly move.
I've trapped their legs, they're tucked in tight,
And here is where I pass the night.

No one disturbs me or dares intrude,
Til morning comes and "I want food!"
I sneak up slowly to begin,
And nibble on my human's chin.
For morning's here, it's time to play,
I always seem to get my way.

So thank you Lord, for giving me,
This human person that I see.
The one who hugs me and holds me tight,
And shares their bed with
me at night.



I'M NOT ADDING
THIS YEAR
TO MY AGE,
I DIDN'T
USE IT.

