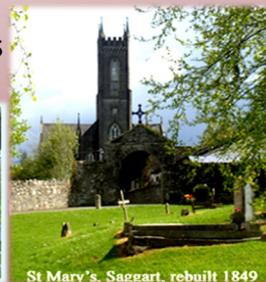
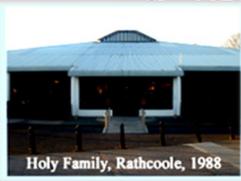


# PARISHES OF SAGGART - RATHCOOLE - BRITTAS & NEWCASTLE



## Parish Grouping Newsletter - 30th Jan 2022

This morning's readings invite us to place our trust in God and in his only son Jesus Christ. Through his resurrection, Christ conquered death and strengthened our faith and hope of eternal life.

Our first reading from the book of Jeremiah reminds us of the consequences of trusting solely on our abilities, on our human strength and human beings: 'Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh, whose heart turns away from the Lord.' Through this, we are reminded that all these will fail us because our success and survival do not depend solely on them. We must ask ourselves, in who, and in what have I put my trust? Placing our trust in God is the best approach to life. certainly, we must make efforts and do what we must do as humans. However, we must not forget that it is God who strengthens, sustains, and blesses our ways and efforts.

Our Responsorial Psalm sounds very much like Jeremiah's oracle. In fact, it may well be that one influenced the other (either Jeremiah quoting the psalm or the psalmist quoting Jeremiah). In any event, Psalm 1 adds something to Jeremiah's prophecy. Jeremiah described the righteous man who flourishes like a green tree as the one who 'trusts in the LORD,' but the psalmist adds that he 'ponders his law day and night.'

In our second reading, St. Paul emphasises that at the heart of our faith lies the hope in the Resurrection and that without this hope, our faith is empty, and we are the most pitiful of people. Why? Because in this life, we are not going to enjoy the reward for whatever good we do and the holiness we attain. This world punishes goodness and holiness, and in external terms, those who trust in God and follow his law can experience the most horrible miseries.

St. Luke's famous 'Sermon on the Plain,' has many similarities as well as significant differences from St. Matthew's more famous Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5-7). In Luke's account, Jesus keeps teaching us that his kingdom, the kingdom of God, reverses many of our expectations and stereotypes. His is a kingdom where the typical markings of 'blessing' - health, wealth, prosperity, power - are doomed to woe, and the typical markings of 'curse' - weakness, sickness, poverty, humiliation - are signs of happiness and rejoicing. What is going on? Jesus's teaching upsets our apple cart and forces us to think more deeply about who God is and who we are.

This Sunday's readings are calling us to do an examination of conscience: We should ask ourselves the following questions. Could the measure of success or prosperity I enjoy be due to the fact that I do not publicly identify with Jesus but simply act and speak like the rest of the world? On the other hand, could the sorrows and afflictions I endure be signs of God's love and the reward he has in store for me in the life to come?



### Mass Times

#### WEEKEND

RATHCOOLE 6PM SAT VIGIL

SUNDAY 12 NOON

NEWCASTLE 10AM

SAGGART 9 & 11AM

#### WEEKDAYS

SAGGART MON TO FRI 11AM

RATHCOOLE TUESDAY AND

WEDNESDAY 10AM

NEWCASTLE MON AND FRI 10AM

WEDNESDAY 7PM

#### CONFESSIONS

*Priests are available after each mass*

**Submissions for  
Newsletter:**

[SNRBparishnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:SNRBparishnewsletter@gmail.com)



As tomorrow is Saint Valentine's Day, I have included a short history of this famous saint.

Saint Valentine who was an Italian doctor and later became a priest, inspired the creation of the holiday of Valentine's Day. He was sent to jail for performing weddings for couples during a time when new marriages were outlawed in ancient Rome. Before he was killed for refusing to renounce his faith, he sent a loving note to a child he had been helping to teach, the daughter of his jailer, and that note eventually led to the tradition of sending Valentine's cards.

*Deacon Paul*

### Contacts

**Office** - Martina Hopkins, *Secretary* Tel: 086 0108420, [Saggartparish@gmail.com](mailto:Saggartparish@gmail.com), [www.saggartparish.blogspot.com](http://www.saggartparish.blogspot.com)  
*Contactable Monday to Thursday 10.00am - 1pm Office open Tuesday & Thursday 10.00am - 1pm*

**Saggart/Newcastle/Brittis** Fr. John Gilligan, *Moderator* 087 4103239, [john.gilligan@dublindioocese.ie](mailto:john.gilligan@dublindioocese.ie)

**Rathcoole** Fr. David Fleming, 083-8232096, [saggartparish@gmail.com](mailto:saggartparish@gmail.com)

**Deacon** Deacon Paul Ferris, 085-2100261, [saggartparish@gmail.com](mailto:saggartparish@gmail.com)

**Parish Pastoral Worker** Frank Brown 086 101 8173, [frank.brown@dublindioocese.ie](mailto:frank.brown@dublindioocese.ie)



@SRBNParishGrouping

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

First Reading	Jeremiah 17:5-8
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20
Gospel Acclamation	Luke 6:23AB
Gospel	Luke 6:17, 20-26

### FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 14th Feb Ss Cyril, Monk & Methodius, Bishop Patrons of Europe  
 Thursday 17th Feb Seven Joly founders of the Servite Order, St Fintan, abbot

*Keep sending your prayer requests & petitions.*



Paddy, Josephine, Ron, Karen, Pauline, Carole, Conor, Robbie, Fintan, Tommy, James, Richard, Ryan, Aimee, Hope, Victor, Kelly, Claire, Ben, Henry, Clinton, Veronica, Peggy, Brendan, Noel, Shane, Ian, Geoff, Paul, Sheila, Colette, Emma, Maureen, Peter, Laura, Michelle, Marie, Feide, Vinny, Bob, Patrick, Dyna, John, Kevin, Halle, Deborah, Clinton, Justin, Con, Maude, Alfie, Brid, Janice, Reece, Sammy, Aaron, Stephen.

*Our candle is always lit for you!*

The measure of our love for others can largely be determined by the frequency and earnestness of our prayers for them. - A. W. Pink

The ANNUAL COLLECTION of ACCORD Dublin, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family will be made at all Masses on the weekend of 12 & 13th Feb. The Collection for ACCORD will replace the usual Share Collection.

ACCORD Dublin throughout the Diocese offers:

- Marriage Preparation courses,
- Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships.
- A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.
- ACCORD Dublin needs your support.

Please give generously this weekend

**TALK** if you can't talk to each other talk to us

**ACCORD ANNUAL COLLECTION**  
 Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022



## Recently Deceased

**Goretti Copper Martin Rathcoole**  
**Michael (Mick) Bohan Newcastle**

*May They Rest in Peace*



Irish Hospice Foundation  
**Bereavement Support Line**  
**1800 807077**



**Open every Monday to Friday**  
**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



### PASTORAL CONVERSATIONS 2022

This monthly session will provide pastoral and liturgical resources to accompany the Lenten Synodal Journey.

Our Pastoral Conversations are designed for members of Parish Pastoral Councils, Family Mass Groups, Music Ministry, Sacramental Coordinators as well as Parish Sisters, Clergy, Parish Pastoral Workers and Faith Development Workers.

This presentation will include Post Communion Reflections and Homily Pointers for each Sunday of Lent plus ideas for setting up a Synodal Prayer space (home & parish). Continuing our resources for the Year of the Family we offer helpful methods to review the week as a family (on the style Examen). There will be musical suggestions and synodal hymns and of course good conversation!

**7:30 - 8:45 PM**

Save the dates!

24th Feb

31st March

28th April

26th May

To Register email  
[lisia.cashen@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:lisia.cashen@dublindiocese.ie)

Archdiocese of Dublin  
 THE OFFICE FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

### Eucharistic Adoration in the Holy Family Church Rathcoole.

- Sunday 4 -6pm
- Tuesday 3-5pm
- Friday 3 -5pm
- First Saturday 2 - 3.30pm

Holy Face Devotions - every Tuesday 11-11.30am



### Fully Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine

21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2022. €549.00 per person sharing. Price includes return bus transfer from Dublin, 4 nights in Knock House Hotel with Full Board. All entertainment and excursions. Wheelchair accessible rooms. Single supplement €60.00. Contact Patricia on 087 1890 236 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)



The Shrine to St Valentine, opposite, and containing the relics of the Saint, is housed in Carmelite Church, Whitefriar St. Ever wondered who was St. Valentine and how he ended up in Dublin? St. Valentine was a clergyman – either a priest or a bishop – in the Roman Empire. At the time, Emperor

Claudius II had banned marriages as he thought single men made better soldiers. However, St Valentine took it upon himself to arrange and perform marriages in secret so couples could still celebrate their love. Unfortunately, the Emperor found out and imprisoned Valentine, sentencing him to death for his crime. He was martyred and his body buried at a Christian cemetery on the Via Flaminia close to the Ponte Milvio to the north of Rome, on February 14, which has been observed as the Feast of St Valentine since 496 AD. In 1835 an Irish Carmelite by the name of John Spratt was visiting Rome. Apparently his fame as a preacher had gone before him, no doubt brought by some Jesuits who had been in Dublin. The elite of Rome flocked to hear him and he received many tokens of esteem from the doyens of the Church. One such token came from Pope Gregory XVI (1831-1846) and were the remains of Saint Valentine. He is patron of love, young people and happy marriage.

♥ HAPPY  
Valentine's  
DAY ♥

Parishes of  
Saggart,  
Rathcoole,  
Brittas &  
Newcastle Lyons

Never forget & never  
let us  
forget...  
You are loved,  
honoured,  
accepted, valued,  
respected, always  
welcome and  
prayed for.

<https://srbnparishes.ie/> @SNRBParishGrouping

Wishing a Happy  
Valentine's Day

to all our  
parishioners,  
volunteers and  
visitors to our  
parishes -  
If you call in to one  
of the churches in  
the area over the  
weekend make sure  
to pick up our  
Valentines card for  
you (and maybe  
take one for  
someone else!!)  
Have a great one

## Is your light shining bright?

If you doubt your light matters, take this little quiz:

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world?
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners?
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America Pageant?

Do you know all these answers? **Probably not!**  
Ask yourself these additional questions:

1. Who cared, comforted, fed and clothed you when you were in need?
2. Who do you trust impeccably, can you depend on, is always there for you?
3. Who is the first friend you would call in an emergency or time of trouble?

You do know the answers to these questions. **They are the salt and light of the world.**

**Would anyone answer these second questions with your name?**



"See the light in others  
& treat them as if  
that's all you see."

**WE NEED  
YOUR HELP**

**We need volunteers to help  
us with our Newsletter,  
website and social media  
pages**

Can you give a bit of your time? Can you help  
update, add content, help shape our Ministry  
of Communication for our parish?

Please contact  
[SNRBparishnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:SNRBparishnewsletter@gmail.com) or  
Frank on  
[frank.brown@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:frank.brown@dublindiocese.ie) for more  
info.

## CHILD SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTION SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR

The Dublin Diocese are looking for a Child Safeguarding and  
Protection Service (CSPS) Administrator. This position will report  
into the Director of CSPS.

For more information, please visit

<https://www.activelink.ie/vacancies/interest-groups/87937-archdiocese-of-dublin-child-safeguarding-and-protection-service-administrator>



Applications for the next **Foundational Leadership  
Course for Young Adults** is now open.

The Foundational Leadership Programme offers  
participants a unique opportunity to explore and  
develop Gospel centred transformational leadership Skills. These  
skills can be readily applied to the participants own context. The  
Foundational Leadership Programme is based mainly in St.  
Paul's Church, Arran Quay. It is uniquely placed to nurture and  
mission a new generation of faith leaders. Commitment will be  
one Saturday per month starting in April 2022. Initially it will  
mix input with blended and in-person learning. This course will  
also prepare leaders for World Youth Day Lisbon 2023.

[Register Here](#)

For more information email [gerard.gallagher@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:gerard.gallagher@dublindiocese.ie)

**COME TO  
WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023**

*'Mary arose and went with haste.'*  
Luke 1:39

Want to know more?  
Contact [wyd@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:wyd@dublindiocese.ie)

Archdiocese of Dublin



*"I guess you can do anything you want with the Beatitudes. Some have ignored them, some have admired them and walked away, some have used them as a yardstick to measure their own blessedness, and some have used them to declare revolution. The simplest thing to do with them, perhaps, is to let them stand you on your head so that you cannot see the world again in the same way but rather the way God sees it - turned upside down by the only one who really knows which way is up."*

## Have you considered being a Priest?

Explore Priesthood: Join in on a **Zoom** to hear from Seminarians & Priests

**Zoom Chat with Seminarians**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March @ 8pm**



Visit: [vocations.ie/zoom](http://vocations.ie/zoom) for details



NATIONAL VOCATIONS OFFICE  
IRISH CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE

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

email: [info@vocations.ie](mailto:info@vocations.ie)

### PARISH FINANCE MANAGER – BOOTERSTOWN PARISH, BLACKROCK

The Parish of Booterstown seeks to recruit a part-time, permanent Parish Finance Manager to join our team to manage the entire Finance function of the team. Reporting to the Parish Finance Committee and liaising with the Finance Secretariat of the Dublin Archdiocese, the successful candidate will manage day-to-day finances of the parish, offering support to the Parish Secretary and the Pastoral Centre Manager.

This is a part-time role of 20 hours per week over 5 days.

Should you wish to apply for this position, please forward a covering letter along with your CV to [info@booterstownparish.ie](mailto:info@booterstownparish.ie) on or before Thursday 17th February 2022.

### PARISH SECRETARY

The Parish of Booterstown seeks to recruit a Parish Secretary, this is a part-time role of 4 hours per day, 5 days per week and flexibility is required to do additional hours during the busy liturgical periods of Easter and Christmas. Overtime will be paid for acting as Secretary to the Parish Pastoral Council. Should you wish to apply for this position, please forward a covering letter along with your CV to [info@booterstownparish.ie](mailto:info@booterstownparish.ie) on or before Thursday 17th February 2022.

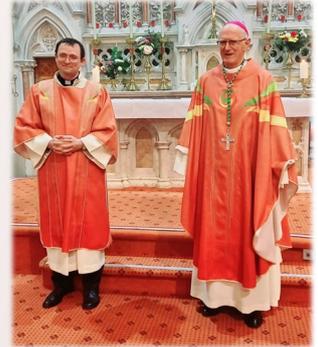
## ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF DEACON JOE KEEGAN

The Office for Vocations to Priesthood invite you to join in praying for Deacon Joe Keegan who will be ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Dermot Farrell. The Ordination takes place on **Sunday, 20th February at 3pm** in the Church of the Most Precious Blood, Cabra West, Dublin 7.

The Ordination can be viewed on the parish webcam link:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/cabrawest>

Joe grew up in Ballybrack; his family moved to Deansgrange where he attended Clonkeen Christian Brothers. He trained as a primary school teacher in London and spent some time working in various schools.



However, *"...since I was a teenager I felt that God might be calling me to become a priest. Over the years this call became clearer and I eventually relented and sought out a vocations director. I spent a year with the Jesuits before applying for the diocese of Dublin. I studied philosophy in Maynooth and Theology in Rome. I look forward to serving in my ministry in any way that I can."*

If you know of anyone interested in finding out more about a vocation to priesthood for the Archdiocese of Dublin, please ask them to contact

Fr. Séamus McEntee at [vocations@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:vocations@dublindiocese.ie) or

Fr. Bill O'Shaughnessy at [Bill.oshaughnessy@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:Bill.oshaughnessy@dublindiocese.ie)

### Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, send workers into your harvest.

May the Spirit we received in baptism touch the hearts of many to offer themselves in priesthood, religious life and other forms of service. Give the parents and families of our Diocese the wisdom and courage to support young people in searching for and following the call of God in their lives. Amen.





# An Invitation

Saggart  
Rathcoole  
Brittas and  
Newcastle

You are warmly invited to a Synodal gathering in March, in the parish of Newcastle. The word "synodal" means journeying together and these gatherings will be an opportunity to share and listen to each other's experience of Church, in an organised, gentle and prayerful environment.

## Why are you being invited?

Pope Francis has asked all of us to take part in sharing and listening to each other and to the Spirit. In this way we are beginning to lay foundations for our future together.

The invitation is to all the baptised. Eventually, all the responses will be collected in time for the 2023 Synod in Rome.

## What will happen at the gatherings?

The group should meet in a quiet space. The group leader will present four questions. Each member will be asked to share their thoughts while the others listen. There is no need to debate, the most important thing is to listen.

Each small group will have a leader who will help everyone to have the opportunity to share and will collect the feedback from the group.

## Questions

**Past** When you think of your experience of Church, what brings joy?  
When you think of your experience of Church, what brings sorrow?

**Future** When you think of your experience of Church, what brings hope?  
When you think of your experience of Church, what brings fear or anxiety?

Please remember we are being asked to listen with understanding, to respect each other's experiences, and to try to walk in the other person's shoes.

## What will happen to the feedback?

The Animators, will sort the feedback into similar themes. This will form the basis for a Report to the Diocese. The feedback will be used by the Parish Team and Parish Pastoral Council to help in pastoral planning.

## When and where will these gatherings happen?

Before St. Patrick's weekend  
At home around the table  
With family or friends or neighbours  
Up to 6 people

## How can you prepare for this?

Please go to the Dublin Diocesan website [www.dublindiocese.ie/synod](http://www.dublindiocese.ie/synod) where you will find information and Videos to help you.

## Our local animators for the Synod will be speaking and be available at all the masses in our area this weekend

If you would like to participate please email [parishsynod22@gmail.com](mailto:parishsynod22@gmail.com) with your name and contact details.

Alternatively contact our local animators - Agnes Grogan, Bridget Breen, Matt O'Sullivan and Ronan McDermott or leave your name with the parish office. We will help & support you to get your group organised.

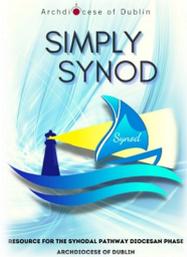
## But why are we having this Synodal process?

"To plant dreams,  
draw forth prophecies and visions,  
allow hope to flourish,  
inspire trust,  
bind up wounds,  
weave together relationships,  
awaken a dawn of hope,  
learn from one another  
and create a bright resourcefulness  
that will enlighten minds,  
warm hearts,  
give strength to our hands."

-Pope Francis



**Simply Synod** - This resource is for anyone who wants to discover the meaning of being a synodal Church. Informed by the Preparatory Document for a Synodal Church, it is for use in the Diocesan Phase of the



Synodal Pathway. It outlines the meaning of Synod and its implications for how we are as a Church. It encourages us to develop the right disposition and attitudes to embark on the journey. It also provides some suggestions about the kind of listening we will need to practice together. You can read this as an on-line flipbook by [clicking here](#)

## Prayer for the Synod

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;  
Teach us the way we must go  
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;  
do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity  
so that we may journey together to eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth  
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,  
who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.



## The Synodal Pathway of the Catholic Church in Ireland

Also check out the information and resources available on the dedicated website

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



## Online Registration for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation for this year is now live!!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope this finds you and your family well. This has been a difficult time for us all and has caused us all to re-evaluate, re-think and re-prioritise things we have previously taken for granted. No more so when it comes to the special events in the lives of your children, your family and our parish community.

In light of this we have been working away in the background to facilitate those celebrating the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation in our parishes. We hope that these will make your involvement in and celebration of these wonderful sacraments as meaningful and as enjoyable as possible.

When you brought your child for Baptism you initiated the process of forming your child as a follower of Jesus. As this journey is now approaching a landmark moment, it is an important time for all involved as we grow together in faith and love. As the primary educators of your children, we are asking you, along with your child, to decide if you would like to journey towards the reception of these sacraments and, if so, we invite you and your child to enter and participate fully in the programme of preparation. The programme will be both carried out in the schools and the Parish will provide on line resources that you can follow. Participation in Sunday Mass will be an important element in the preparation. As always, we wholeheartedly thank you for your patience and look forward to celebrating this important time with you and your family.

We are now inviting you to register online for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation through our online process –

<https://srbnparishes.ie/sacramental-registration-first-reconciliation-first-holy-communion-confirmation-2022/>

The registration for this year's sacramental process will remain open until **20th February 2022**.

We have confirmed dates with the schools, and you will find these on our new website. I wish you and your family every blessing in preparing for the sacraments and encourage you to avail of the resources that we have made available for you, your children and your families on our website –

<https://srbnparishes.ie/sacramental-preparation-and-refresher-resources-for-confirmation-first-penance-first-communion-2022/>

which will be also available on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SRBNParishGrouping>

If you have any further questions do not hesitate to contact us,

God bless,

Fr John Gilligan  
Moderator



### A reflection on Sunday's readings for our Polish Parishioners - Thanks Chris

Have you thanked God today for your family, friends, work, or food that is on your table? It is so easy to forget God when we are short of nothing or think we need no help. Jesus does not condemn people who are rich or who laugh. He shows us that only a deep relationship with God can fully fill all our desires. Jeremiah says we will be blessed when we put our trust in the Lord. Because even if we lack something, He will be with us and make us happy. Be grateful! Everything is God's grace!

Czy dziękowałeś Bogu dzisiaj za swoją rodzinę, przyjaciół, pracę czy jedzenie, które masz na stole? Tak łatwo jest nam zapomnieć o Bogu, kiedy niczego nam nie brakuje albo wydaje nam się, że nie potrzebujemy pomocy. Jezus nie potępia ludzi bogatych ani weselących się. Pokazuje nam, że tylko głęboka relacja z Bogiem może w pełni zaspokoić wszystkie nasze pragnienia. Jeremiasz mówi, że będziemy błogosławieni, gdy zaufamy Panu. Bo nawet jeśli by nam czegoś zabrakło, On będzie przy nas i sprawi, że będziemy szczęśliwi. Bądźmy wdzięczni! Wszystko jest łaską Bożą!



When God wants to sort out the world, as the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount make clear, he doesn't send in the tanks. He sends in the meek, the broken, the justice hungry, the peacemakers, the pure-hearted and so on.

# A New Mission Statement for the Archdiocese of Dublin



A year after his installation, on the 9th February, Archbishop Dermot Farrell, guided by the [Building Hope Task Force Report](#), presented a Statement of Mission for the Dublin Archdiocese. This Statement highlights our core mission in a time of rapid change, setting out a vision for the diocese and providing values to inform our planning for the future.

A video of the Archbishop introducing the Statement of Mission is available at:

<https://youtu.be/RZ4uVlrZr54>

The Pastoral Strategy Implementation Group will, as the year progresses, provide resources to help parishes engage creatively with this important work.

We'd welcome your thoughts and reaction to it?

By all means send us any thoughts you have to [frank.brown@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:frank.brown@dublindiocese.ie)

To all who participate in parish life and ministry,

A year after my installation as Archbishop, I am presenting a Statement of Mission for the Dublin Archdiocese. This Statement highlights our core mission in a time of rapid change, setting out a vision for the diocese and providing values to inform our planning for the future.

This is the beginning of our more formal response to the *Building Hope* Task Force Report which is available on the diocesan website: [Task Force | Archdiocese of Dublin \(dublindiocese.ie\)](#). Having gathered 3,000 consultation responses from people, priests and parishes, the Task Force in its Report set out a pastoral strategy for the Archdiocese. I would ask you all to read it carefully and reflectively. It is an essential starting point in the process of renewal we must undertake together.

I am inviting Parish Pastoral Councils to give priority to the implementation of the mission, vision and values described in the Statement of Mission. I am asking all priests, deacons, parish pastoral workers and parish employees to engage wholeheartedly in planning for the future.

I have appointed a Pastoral Strategy Implementation Group to oversee the implementation of the Task Force strategy. The group will in due course provide a framework and resources to help faith communities engage creatively with this important work.

As the year progresses, parishes will be invited to participate in a process of discernment about parish life into the future. Further details will be provided in late March, for active consideration between Easter and Pentecost. This process will follow on from and build on the synodal conversations taking place in Lent, preparations for which are already well underway in the Archdiocese.

Led by the Holy Spirit, we can respond imaginatively, practically, and with Christian hope to the needs of our time and bring life and energy to the renewal we are called to in Christ.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

+ Dermot Farrell,  
Archbishop of Dublin

## STATEMENT OF MISSION

*The great social, cultural and religious change of our time brings challenges and opportunities for all people—both for people of faith and for people who do not see themselves in this way. In response, the Archdiocese of Dublin is initiating a process of review and renewal, and is providing a Statement of Mission as a starting point for reflection and conversation in each parish and in the diocese as a whole.*

### MISSION

Encounter with the person of Jesus makes us who we are, and shapes what we do. Being at the service of this encounter is the heart of our mission. The living Christ calls and empowers the Dublin Archdiocese to act with resolve and become more fully a place of welcome and compassion, which embodies the power, hope and joy of the gospel.

### VISION

Across the Archdiocese we build up together:

- Communities that are faith-filled
- Communities of co-responsibility through servant leadership
- Communities that are active in social justice and
- Communities of welcome and inclusion.

We are called to develop new ways to accompany the people of our time. This will require new thinking and a shift of mind-set in everyone.

Within the reality of our cultural, social and church context, we must create new possibilities for mission:

- Supporting people to deepen their faith and relationship with God
- Creating the structures that support vibrant communities of faith, and
- Advocating for those who are on the margins

Aware of the need for responsible stewardship, and of the diminishing resources available of time, talent and treasure, we are invited into an ongoing process of prayerful dialogue, discernment and decision making, concerning our missionary priorities.

### VALUES

**Continuously opening ourselves** to the challenges and opportunities provided by change.

**Building** a culture of dialogue, discernment and solidarity.

**Actively participating** together as baptised People of God.

**Working alongside each other** to effect renewal.

**Including and accompanying all**, especially those on the margins.

**Supporting and resourcing** faith development.

**Committing ourselves** to care for the earth and sustainability.

**Grounding** all we do as communities in the mission and ministry of

Jesus.

save the date!



**Ecumenical Bible Week** is an exciting and successful venture which is now in its ninth year and will run from Pentecost Sunday (5th June) to Trinity Sunday (12th June) 2022. A series of Online Events

**Peter was still speaking when the Holy Spirit came upon all who listened to the word.**  
Acts 10:44

**2022: A new Pentecost - Moving to the Edges**  
There'll be debate, talks, music and (we hope) lots of participation.

Now in its ninth year **Ecumenical Bible Week**, led by the Archdiocese of Dublin and the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough in collaboration with many other Christian traditions will run this year from Pentecost to Trinity Sunday [5-12 June 2022].

The overall theme for this year is 'A New Pentecost: Moving to the Edges'.  
'Peter was still speaking when the Holy Spirit came upon all who listened to the word.' Acts 10:44

As in previous years EBW will have opening and closing prayer events.

There will be a Theological Symposium on the afternoon of Thursday 9 June where the theme will be 'Listen to the Word'

That evening in Thinking Allowed a panel of Faith leaders will each give their 'Personal Vision of a New Pentecost'.

A new event being introduced this year will focus on the experiences of the 'new' Irish.

Check out the Ecumenical Bible Week's Website: <https://www.bibleweek.ie/> for further information and to register for the events which will be online.

You can also follow and share Ecumenical Bible Week's online posts on Facebook and Instagram:

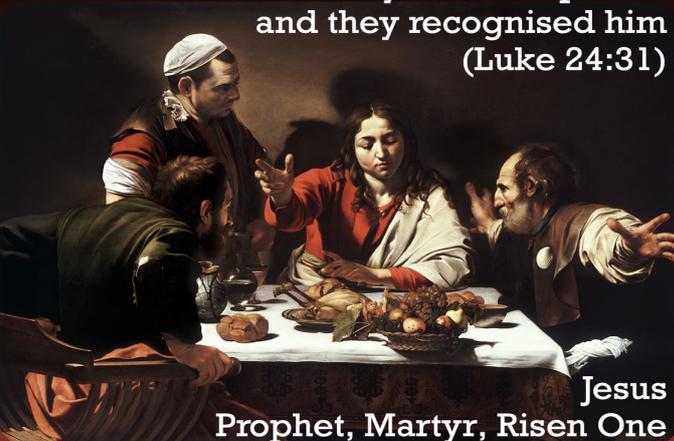
<https://www.facebook.com/bibleweekie/>  
[https://www.instagram.com/ecumenical\\_bible\\_week/](https://www.instagram.com/ecumenical_bible_week/)  
#ebw2021, #bibleweek2021

## TARSUS SCRIPTURE SCHOOL

Holy Week and Easter 2022



And their eyes were opened  
and they recognised him  
(Luke 24:31)



Jesus  
Prophet, Martyr, Risen One  
in Luke-Acts

9 presentations  
Jessie Rogers  
Sean Coan  
Kieran O'Mahony

Jesus the Prophet in Luke-Acts  
The death of Jesus in Luke-Acts  
The Risen Lord in Luke-Acts

1 webinar  
1 meditation

Monday 11 April @ 7.30 pm  
Tuesday 19 April @ 7.30 pm

Cost  
Registration  
Going live

€30 per household  
[www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie](http://www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie)  
22 March 2022



**"BLESSED ARE THEY WHO FOLLOW  
THE LAW OF THE LORD!"**

Today is the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and through the Scripture Readings of today, God calls us to a radical way of living & thinking.

**We are called to be more than just moral:  
God calls us to be virtuous. .**

"A story is told about Fiorello LaGuardia, who, when he was mayor of New York City, during the worst days of the Great Depression and all of WWII, was called by adoring New Yorkers 'the Little Flower' because he was only five foot four and always wore a carnation in his lapel. He was a colourful character who used to ride the New York City fire trucks, raid speakeasies with the police department, take entire orphanages to baseball games, and whenever the New York newspapers were on strike, he would go on the radio and read the Sunday funnies to the kids.

One bitterly cold night in January of 1935, the mayor turned up at a night court that served the poorest ward of the city. LaGuardia dismissed the judge for the evening and took over the bench himself. Within a few minutes, a tattered old woman was brought before him, charged with stealing a loaf of bread. She told La Guardia that her daughter's husband had deserted her, her daughter was sick, and her two grandchildren were starving. But the shopkeeper, from whom the bread was stolen, refused to drop the charges. "It's a real bad neighbourhood, your Honour." the man told the mayor. "She's got to be punished to teach other people around here a lesson."

LaGuardia sighed. He turned to the woman and said "I've got to punish you. The law makes no exceptions – ten dollars or ten days in jail." But even as he pronounced sentence, the mayor was already reaching into his pocket. He extracted a bill and tossed it into his famous sombrero saying: "Here is the ten dollar fine which I now remit; and furthermore, I am going to fine everyone in this courtroom fifty cents for living in a town where a person has to steal bread so that her grandchildren can eat. Mr. Bailiff, collect the fines and give them to the defendant."

So the following day the New York City newspapers reported that \$47.50 was turned over to a bewildered old lady who had stolen a loaf of bread to feed her starving grandchildren, fifty cents of that amount being contributed by the red-faced grocery store owner, while some seventy petty criminals, people with traffic violations, and New York City policemen, each of whom had just paid fifty cents for the privilege of doing so, gave the mayor a standing ovation. In this story we see how the mayor of New York City maintained and defended the laws under his jurisdiction, not by merely keeping them himself, but much more than that by showing respect, even to the accused and being compassionate to her and helping her out at the same time.

*Justice without mercy would be dark, cruel, more like injustice than justice. But mercy without justice would be like salve on a sore which should be cleansed with the red-hot iron; if the salve is applied before the wound is cleansed it only makes it smart, and does not heal it"*

Catherine of Siena

**Empathy:**

Let me hold  
the door for you.  
I may have never  
walked in your shoes,  
but I can see  
your soles are worn  
and your strength is torn  
under the weight of a story  
I have never lived before.  
So let me hold the door for you.  
After all you've walked through,  
It's the least I can do.

MORGAN HARPER NICHOLS

# DIGNITY IN DIALOGUE

## A Fresh Look at Persistent Poverty

A series of workshops presented in collaboration with ATD Ireland supported by the Presentation Sisters and the Christian Brothers.

**15 - 17 February 2022**

- Workshop 1: Tuesday, 15th February 10.30am - 12.30pm
- Workshop 2: Wednesday, 16th February 1.00pm - 3.00pm
- Workshop 3: Thursday, 17th February 10.30 am - 12.30pm
- Workshop 4: Thursday, 17th February 7.00pm - 9.00pm - **ONLINE ONLY**

*(Attendance at all 4 workshops is not essential. Participants may choose to attend one, or any combination)*



Ahead of World Social Justice Day on Sunday 20th February, these Workshops offer an opportunity to learn first-hand about the various causes of persistent poverty.

Input from people with lived experience of poverty will enable participants to hear their untold story, to engage with their journey, and to understand more the challenges and struggle which impact on their experiencing dignity and respect. The four sessions will be offered in person and online and will highlight how the COVID pandemic has driven people deeper into poverty and reinforced the inequalities within our society.



Learn about the work of ATD Ireland at <http://www.atdireland.ie/wp/>

Those attending in person will have the opportunity to visit the Socio-Economic Discrimination: Through the Creative Lens exhibition, comprising the creative work produced in collaboration with ATD during the lockdown period. The Exhibition will be installed at the Margaret Aylward Centre throughout the month of February.



There is no charge, but donations welcome. Booking is essential and places can be secured at [www.margaretaylwardcentre.ie](http://www.margaretaylwardcentre.ie) For more details: tel: 01 7979364 or email: [info@macfd.ie](mailto:info@macfd.ie)



**Are you experiencing food poverty?**

Clondalkin Cares Food Bank can help if you are not

able to afford enough food and live in our catchment area of Dublin Mid-West.

Please call **016269151** to make an appointment for registration.

**WANT TO GET JOB READY?**  
**ARE YOU AGED 16 TO 25?**  
**LIVING IN SOUTH COUNTY DUBLIN ?**  
THIS FREE ONE WEEK COURSE MAY BE FOR YOU



**WORKSHOPS & TRAINING**  
SAFE PASS  
MANUAL HANDLING  
WORKING AT HEIGHTS  
C.V. PREPARATION  
JOB/CAREER TYPES  
JOB SEARCHING SUPPORTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OR EMAIL Grainne @ 0876019028 [Grainne.Boucher@sdcpartnership.ie](mailto:Grainne.Boucher@sdcpartnership.ie)



**CAREER PREPARATION**

**FREE PROGRAMME FEB 21ST TO 24TH 2022**

MOUNTAIN PARK CENTRE, TALLAGHT, D.24



Lego Workshop with Bricks4Kids. Come along and technical building on themes of Sports, Game on and other choices. For ages 8 - 12 years.

Booking from Wednesday 9th Feb at 10am here: <https://buff.ly/3uxyFet>

Thinking of heading abroad to work or live? Crosscare Migrant Project have put together some important advice and information to guide you as you plan.

<https://crosscareyouthinfo.ie/travel-2/>

**AWARE - SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS** - If you, or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider using the Phone in and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail. These services provide support, coping skills and information – and most importantly help people who are in distress to know and feel that they are not alone in their experience. For more information about the groups

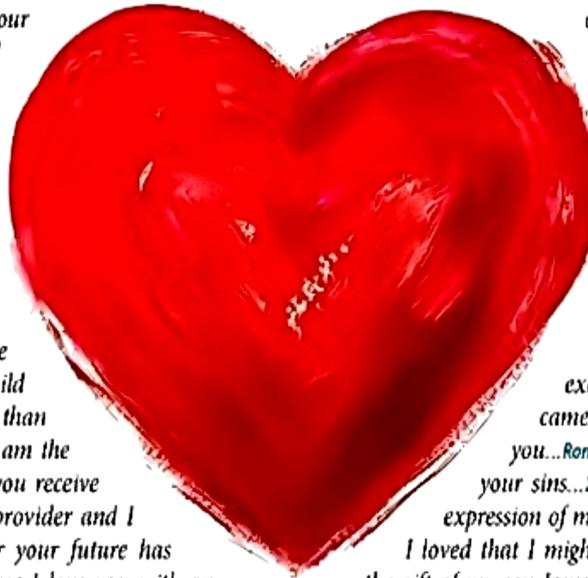
<https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on [www.aware.ie/](http://www.aware.ie/)

If you would like to volunteer with Aware, please see their website for more info: [www.aware.ie/get-involved/volunteering/](http://www.aware.ie/get-involved/volunteering/)

# A Valentines' message to you. This Valentine's I want you to truly know...

You may not know me, but I know everything about you...Psalm 139:1 I know when you sit down and when you rise up...Psalm 139:2 I am familiar with all your ways...Psalm 139:3 Even the very hairs on your head are numbered...Matthew 10:29-31 For you were made in my image...Genesis 1:27 In me you live and move and have your being...Acts 17:28 For you are my offspring...Acts 17:28 I knew you even before you were conceived...Jeremiah 1:4-5 I chose you when I planned creation...Ephesians 1:11-12 You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book...Psalm 139:15-16 I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live...Acts 17:26 You are fearfully and wonderfully made...Psalm 139:14 I knit you together in your mother's womb...Psalm 139:13 And brought you forth on the day you were born...Psalm 71:6 I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me...John 8:41-44 I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love...1 John 4:16 And it is my desire to lavish my love on you...1 John 3:1 Simply because you are my child and I am your Father...1 John 3:1 I offer you more than your earthly Father ever could...Matthew 7:11 For I am the perfect Father...Matthew 5:48 Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand...James 1:17 For I am your provider and I meet all your needs...Matthew 6:31-33 My plan for your future has always been filled with hope...Jeremiah 29:11 Because I love you with an everlasting love...Jeremiah 31:3 My thoughts toward you are as countless as the sands on the seashore...Psalm 139:17-18 And I rejoice over you with singing...Zephaniah 3:17 I will never stop doing good to you...Jeremiah 32:40 For you are my treasured possession...Exodus 19:5 I desire to establish you

with all my heart and all my soul...Jeremiah 32:41 And I want to show you great and marvellous things...Jeremiah 33:3 If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me...Deuteronomy 4:29 Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart...Psalm 37:4 For it is I who gave you those desires...Philippians 2:13 I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine...Ephesians 3:20 For I am your greatest encourager...2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles...2 Corinthians 1:3-4 When you are broken hearted, I am close to you...Psalm 34:18 As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart...Isaiah 40:11 One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes...Revelation 21:3-4 And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this Earth...Revelation 21:3-4 I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus...John 17:23 For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed...John 17:26 He is the exact representation of my being...Hebrews 1:3 He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you...Romans 8:31 And to tell you that I am not counting your sins...2 Corinthians 5:18-19 His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you...1 John 4:10 I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love...Romans 8:31-32 If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me...1 John 2:23 And nothing will ever separate you from my love again...Romans 8:38-39 Come home and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen...Luke 15:7 I have always been Father, and will always be Father...Ephesians 3:14-15 My question is...Will you be my child?...John 1:12-13 I am waiting for you...Luke 15:11-32



Love always & unconditionally, God xxx



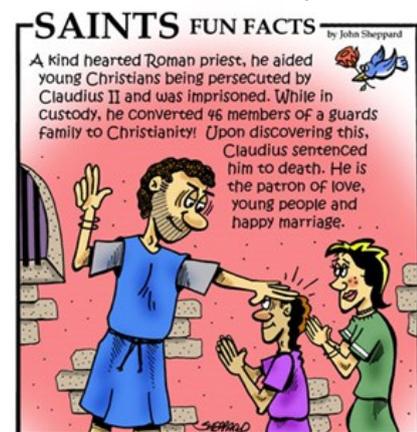
**St Valentine's Shrine is in Dublin** - Worldwide, St Valentine is known as the patron saint of love and lovers, but not a lot of people know that the remains of St. Valentine have been lying around in a Dublin church since 1836. It is open daily to the public so you can drop in and say hello. To honour his passing a special side altar and shrine were built to house St Valentine's remains and to allow people and lovers to come and pay their respects and to pray for him. A new statue of the saint which was carved for the altar shows the Saint wearing the red cloth of the martyr and holding his symbolic crocus aloft in blessing all lovers.

The black casket which contains St Valentine's remains is kept in a niche under the altar which is secured by a gate. On top of the casket is the coat of arms of Pope Gregory XVI inscribed with the words "This Shrine contains the sacred body of Saint Valentinus (Valentine) the Martyr, together with a small vessel said to be tinged with the saint's blood."

It Is Good to Share and Celebrate LOVE!!

**Valentine's Day Fun Facts** - Here is the most enjoyable and unbelievable collection of Valentine's Day Fun Facts. Share these fun facts with your friends to amaze them this Valentine Day.

- About 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are exchanged in US each year. That's the largest seasonal card-sending occasion of the year, next to Christmas.
- Women purchase 85% of all valentines.
- In order of popularity, Valentine's Day cards are given to teachers, children, mothers, wives, sweethearts and pets.
- Parents receive 1 out of every 5 valentines.
- About 3% of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets.
- In olden times, some people believed that if a woman saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a millionaire.
- Valentine's Day and Mother's Day are the biggest holidays for giving flowers.
- Worldwide, over 50 million roses are given for Valentine's Day each year.



St. Valentine

# Hidden Blessings

NAA!  
I'M SO  
HUNGRY!



In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells us that people who are poor, hungry, or sad are blessed! Do they sound blessed to you?

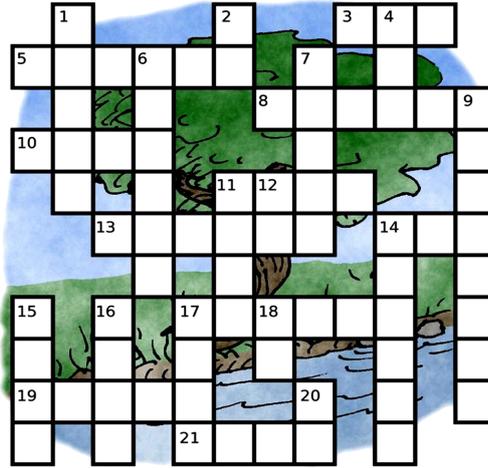
Bad things that happen to us have hidden blessings in them. If you are poor then your family and friends are more important to you than money and things. If you are hungry then you appreciate food more. If you are sad then sometimes it's easier to remember to pray.

But things that seem bad have another hidden blessing in them- when you are suffering, you can give your sadness or hurt to Jesus. Tell Him you are offering it up along with Him on the cross. He will give you grace to make your soul stronger. You can offer things up for other people too, and God will use your gift to help them!

Next time you feel unhappy about something, try to find the hidden blessing!



# Trust in the Lord Cross-Word



- beings
- distress
- stream
- human
- trusts
- cursed
- beside
- roots
- barren
- green
- heat
- year
- it
- tree
- is
- but
- who
- he
- in
- his
- bush
- Lord
- that
- from

Here is today's first reading, from Jeremiah.  
Fill in the blanks using the words from the list and fit them into the puzzle.

Thus says the Lord:

8a is the one who trusts in 7d 17a,  
3a seeks 4d strength 18d flesh,  
whose heart turns away 16d the Lord.  
12d is like a 13a 17d in the desert  
11a enjoys no change of season,  
14a stands in a lava waste, a salt and empty earth.  
Blessed is the one who 5a in the Lord,  
whose hope is the 15d.  
He 2d like a 11d planted 14d the waters that  
stretches out its 19a to the 6d;  
it fears not the 21a when 20d comes; its leaves stay 1d;  
in the 10a of drought it shows no 9d,  
but still bears fruit.

N	O	D	G	N	I	K	I	S	S
J	S	E	C	N	E	V	A	E	H
O	E	K	R	O	O	P	C	N	A
Y	S	F	I	E	C	N	A	D	P
R	A	A	M	N	U	H	L	E	P
G	E	L	I	O	G	E	A	T	Y
N	S	S	N	U	V	D	S	N	N
U	I	E	A	E	R	O	O	A	U
H	D	L	L	N	R	U	O	M	H
C	U	R	E	D	R	A	W	E	R

- LEVEL
- DISEASES
- POOR
- HUNGRY
- NAME
- DANCE
- REWARD
- ALAS
- CRIMINAL
- HAPPY
- KINGDOM
- DENOUNCE



**Things I bet JESUS DIDN'T say:**

"Love your enemies, you know, once they come over to YOUR side!"  
aka, the Right one!

"If the meek wanted to INHERIT anything, they've should've worked as HARD as the 'JOB CREATORS'."

**"FEED the HUNGRY— unless YOU THINK THEY might be 'TAKERS'."**



**Bless my ex-sister.**  
Two sisters spent the day fighting. That evening they prepared for bed, still mad at each other. As usual, each knelt by the side of her bed for their prayers. "Dear God," the 8-year-old began, "Bless Daddy and Mommy, bless our cat and dog." Then she stopped. Her mother gently prodded, "Didn't you forget somebody?" She glared across the bed at her 6-year-old sister and added, "And, oh yes, God, bless my ex-sister."



[Pulpit Resource (Jan-Mar 1992), p. 14.]