

SAINT SYLVESTER'S CHURCH, MALAHIDE

Rev Kevin Moore, Moderator Tel. 01 549 6615 Mary Kirk, Parish Pastoral Worker Tel. 087 457 0981

13th May 2018 ~ Ascension Sunday ~ www.malahideparish.ie ~ email: stsylvesters@eircom.net ~ Twitter: @malahideparish

PARISH OFFICE

St Sylvester's Parish Office open Mon - Fri from 10:30am to 1:00pm Tel: 01 8451244.

PARISH CENTRE: Great facilities available. Contact Sharon, Centre Manager 086 0492369 e-mail sharon@malahideparishcentre.com.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES: Parish

Conversations: The third evening of our 6 week Programme of preparation for The World Meeting of Families takes place in Portmarnock Parish Centre, next Tues 15th May at 7.30pm. The evenings are based on Pope Francis' reflections on love and the family, as set out in his document "The Joy of Love". Next meeting 22nd May in Portmarnock Parish Centre. May 29th in St Sylvester's Parish Centre

BIBLE STUDY GROUP – 11.00AM THURSDAYS

IN ST. FINIAN ROOM will continue for 4 more weeks till the end of May. Two Old Testament areas and two New Testament areas will be covered over the next 4 Thursdays. For info: Mary Kirk, Pastoral Worker 0874570981

FIRST COMMUNION for pupils from St. Andrew's and Malahide Educate Together Schools takes place at 10am Mass next Sunday. Please keep them in your prayers.

MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION CLASSES

Thurs mornings 10 – 11am. Also Tues 7-8pm. Info: 0851970566. www.treacyoconnor.com

BETHANY BEREVEMENT SERVICE.

Have you suffered a bereavement? Are you feeling that loss? Would you like to talk to someone about it? Malahide Bethany Bereavement Support group have organised support sessions for the three Mondays in June and the first Monday in July, commencing on Monday 11th June at 7.30pm in St. Sylvester's parish centre. If you would like further information, contact the Bethany Team on 087 7936189 to avail of this free and confidential service.

PLANT SALE. Malahide Community School Parents Association will host their annual Plant Sale in the School Canteen on Friday afternoon May 18th (3pm to 5pm) and all day Saturday May 19th Great Value, all welcome.

MALAHIDE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. On Wed 16th May presents "HANGING BASKETS AND CONTAINERS" by Michael Connolly at 8pm, in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Church Road, Malahide. All welcome. Adm: Members €3 – Non members €4 – includes tea/coffee.

HOWTH PARISH REFORM AND RENEWAL

GROUP: Mon. 14th May, 8pm, St. Columbanus Hall. Dr Sharon-Tighe Mooney from Maynooth University will speak about her book- 'What About Me? Women and the Catholic Church'. It is an exploration by an ordinary woman, born into the Catholic faith, of the arguments given to exclude her from ministry. Sharon examines the New Testament, Christian writings and Papal to shed light on the story of women in the Christian movement from its earliest days to the present. It will be followed by a discussion and Q&A.

ANNUAL MALAHIDE 10K/5K in aid of homeless charities incl Alice Leahy Trust & Salvation Army - Sun, 20th May. Starts Malahide Cricket Club 11am. Registration: www.myrunresults.com

MASS TIMES: ST. SYLVESTER'S CHURCH, MALAHIDE

Sunday: 10.am, 11.15am, 12.30pm and 5.30pm. Weekdays: 10 am.

CARMELITE CONVENT: Mon - Fri 7.30am; Sat & Sun 9.00am.

YELLOW WALLS: Sat 6:00; Sun 10:30 & 12:00; Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

PORTMARNOCK: Sat 6:30pm; Sun 10:30am & 12:00pm; Mon - Fri 10:00am.

KINSEALY: Sunday 11:00am; Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri 10:00 am.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - ST. SYLVESTER'S CHURCH

Tues: 10.30am – 3.00pm; 7:00pm - 9pm.

Wed: 8.am-9.45am; 10.30am–2.pm; 7 - 9pm. First Fri: 10.30-4.00

**Adoration subject to interruption between 11am – 2pm for 1st Communion practices.*

MASS INTENTIONS 14th – 21st January

SUN: 9.00am Ross Nugent (A); 10.00am Peter Joseph Gibney (A); Special Remembrance: Teresa Gibney & Peter Vincent Gibney RIP; 11.15am Pauline Clarke (A); 12.30pm Phyllis Hurley (1st A); Special Remembrance: Mark Joyce (1st A) 5.30pm Ann and Thomas Walsh (A) **MON:** 7.30am Healing Mass; 10.00am Paddy Guerin RIP **TUE:** 7.30am Healing Mass;; 10.00am Special Intention **WED:** 7.30am; Healing Mass; 10.00am Kitty Crossan (A) **THUR:** 7.30am Peter RIP; 10.00am Special Intention **FRI:** 7.30am James O'Shea RIP; 10.00am Ena & Dermot Hurley (A) **SAT:** 9.00am Special Intention: Mary Muldowney O'Shea & Family; 10.00am Cliff Winterbotham RIP **NEXT SUN:** 9.00am William & Eileen Ward (A) 10.00am); 1st Communion St Andrews & Educate Together;; 11.15am Michael & Marcella Gaffney (A); Special Remembrance: Mary Larkin (A) Deceased members of the Kerrigan & Lucey families; 12.30pm Larry Doolin (A) 5.30pm Georgina, Michael & Sean Boyle (A)

8th AMENDMENT PUBLIC MEETING FOR OUR PARISH GROUPING

There will be a Public Meeting in relation to the forthcoming referendum on the 8th Amendment of the constitution next Wednesday, 16th May, at 7.30pm in Portmarnock Parish Centre for our Parish Grouping of Kinsealy, Malahide, Portmarnock and Yellow Walls.

THE SPEAKERS at the meeting will be **DR. DEIRDRE GLEESON** of the Pro-Life Campaign and **FR. MICHAEL SHORTALL**, lecturer in moral theology, Maynooth, who has a particular interest in human rights and also in bioethics.

Both speakers will deliver a short address followed by a question and answer session.

All are welcome and we hope it will provide an opportunity for parishioners to help inform themselves about some of the issues around the 8th amendment and be of help as you prepare to cast your vote in the forthcoming referendum.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK – Friday, 8th June at 4.00pm, **The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**, we will have the ceremony of the Anointing of the Sick in St. Sylvester's Church. We ask those who have a family member or know of someone who would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick to make whatever arrangements are necessary to facilitate that person being able to present in the church on 8th June. The Sacrament of the sick can be received by anybody of any age who has any kind of physical, psychological or mental illness and by anybody over 65 years of age.

COLLECTIONS: 1ST COLLECTION: €1,737 supports the priests of our parish, sick and retired priests, priests in low-income parishes and priests working in special ministries throughout our Diocese. **2nd COLLECTION:** €1,270 to SHARE provides essential pastoral services supporting all parishes. Share also provides support to low-income parishes and contributes to initiatives of the Irish Bishops Conference. Thank you for your support of the Sunday collections and of the Parish by 1) Standing Orders or 2) Family Offering Envelopes or 3) The Parish Draw, which are the main sources of funding for the day to day running of the Parish.

FAMILY OFFERING ENVELOPES are ready for collection in the Parish Office. Please call in to collect between 10.30am & 1pm Mon-Fri. Our thanks to all who support the parish through this envelope. Parishioners may wish to start contributing to the running of the parish by way of the Family Offering Envelope. Arrangements can be made in the office.

APRIL 2018 PARISH DRAW WINNERS

Congratulations to the lucky winners in the April 2018 Parish Draw, which took place on 9th May 2018, namely: €1,000 first prize: No. 719 – D. Murphy; €500 second prize: No. 768 – M. Purtill; Third prize: No. 460 – T Lavin. Sincere thanks to all who support the draw and good luck to everyone in next month's draw.

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY wishes to thank all who supported our fundraising cake sale, coffee morning and raffle on 29th April. The sum of €1367 was raised and this goes into a fund to assist where needed, The Education of Seminarians in Ireland and abroad. Our thanks in particular to the Parish Hospitality Group for their considerable contribution and also all those who donated prizes, cakes etc.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ST. SYLVESTER'S CHURCH SATISFACTION AND VOLUNTEERING REPORT (MAY 2018)

This study was undertaken by the Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) as part of the St Sylvester's Parish Strategic Plan (2017-2022) with the aim of identifying if, and how parishioners are engaging in parish activities and how satisfied they are with their engagement. There is need for a strategy that is proactive, for individuals to take ownership, be involved in the ministries of their parish and have a willingness to become involved. Churchgoers and parish volunteers are becoming increasingly older and consequently there is a need for a greater number of mid-range-age parishioners to become involved in church activities by engaging in the life of the parish, thus ensuring its life blood into the future. In order to find out if this was the case two questionnaires were presented during some Masses in January and February.

Findings from Questionnaire 1 (Satisfaction) are presented in **Table 1** and from Questionnaire 2 (Volunteering) in **Table 2**. Analysis from comments made by respondents also took place. There were **232** responses to the comment section of Questionnaire 1, from **1059** questionnaires. Themes were extracted and reported on. Comments were both positive and negative with some helpful solutions to perceived concerns, problems and issues identified. The main themes related to the following areas: Gospel and Spiritual Themes; Parish Centre; Parish Supports; St Sylvester's Church; Teenagers and Children and Women, Parents, Carers and Older persons.

From a total of **1059** parishioners who responded to Questionnaire 1 (Satisfaction), the majority were overwhelmingly satisfied with their involvement in the church and with their church activities. The number of satisfied responses ranged from **82-87%**. The number of not satisfied responses ranged from **3-9%** and neutral ranged from **9-13%**. A figure of **79%** per cent reported attending the church for 10 years or more. When asked if currently involved in parish activities, **27%** responded in the affirmative and **73%** in the negative. When asked if they would consider becoming involved **10%** reported being interested and **33%** would consider it. In order to determine which group(s) participants would be interested in joining a second questionnaire (Volunteering) was presented. A total of **468** parishioners indicated their choice.

Parishioners undertaking pastoral work in St Sylvester's Parish provide valuable parish work, many working as members of several groups and all in a voluntary capacity. They provide a valuable service to the community and give of their time in a manner that is exemplary and often hidden from public view. This selfless work, demonstrated through the questionnaire responses presented here, is represented as a strong thread that supports the priests of the parish in pastoral and community work. The PPC acknowledges with gratitude this support on behalf of the parish. The PPC also acknowledges the guidance of Father Kevin Moore in the facilitation of the questionnaires. The PPC is committed to acknowledging responses where address or email/telephone number was provided. Contact will be made over the next number of weeks/months with further information as things progress. It is at this stage that respondents can decide to make a definite decision about becoming involved.

The two questionnaire tables are available at the back of the church if not included as an insert in the Newsletter.

The full report, including findings is available on St Sylvester's Church Web Page: www.malahideparish.ie

EXTRACT FROM CHOOSELIFE 2018 NO. 15: Does life begin at conception? Yes. *But this is not just a question of belief – it's a scientific fact. At the moment of conception, a new, unique human being with his or her own DNA comes into existence. In recent years, amazing advances in ultrasound technology provide us with a window into the womb and reveal the truth that the unborn child is undeniably one of us – a human being and much more than 'a clump of cells'. In the past, some people may have pleaded ignorance to the humanity of life in the womb but today we no longer have this excuse.*

MALAHIDE LADIES CLUB Grand Hotel AGM Wednesday 16th May 8pm, All welcome.

MARA: Next meeting is tomorrow, Monday, 14th May, at 10am upstairs in the Library. Speaker: Jakkie Reid ~ 'Yoga for Seniors' Deposits for the 12th June trip to Kilkenny will be taken at the meeting on Monday.

BLESSING OF A PARISH BOOK with detailed photographs and explanations of the Stained-Glass windows in the Prayer Chapel and Parish Centre takes place at 11.15 Mass today. It is on display in the Prayer Chapel and a copy may be viewed on request in the Parish Centre.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

The current term of the Parish Pastoral Council ends in June. Any parishioner who is interested in serving on the Council should hand their names into the Parish Office. A number of vacancies will arise and after a brief training programme a selection will be made. The Council meets monthly, except for July & August and has an advisory role to assist the Parish Priest.

THE ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL WILL HAPPEN AS FOLLOWS:

- Anyone who would like to be a member of the Parish pastoral Council signs their own application form.
- Applications to be returned to Fr. Kevin Moore by Tuesday 22nd May
- Those who have returned a nomination form will be contacted to confirm their willingness to proceed.
- A training course will take place in June after which people make a final decision to become a member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Please cut -----

APPLICATION FOR ST. SYLVESTER'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Mob: _____ EMAIL _____

Please return to Fr. Kevin Moore by Tuesday 22nd May at
Parish Office, St. Sylvester's Pastoral Centre, Main Street, Malahide, Co. Dublin

