



# News for You

February 2025

## Dear Parishioners

Location! Location! Location! The word ‘bethophany’ (beth= house; phany = revelation of Jesus as Divine) was new to me this Epiphany season and maybe to you too?

It is linked with the wedding feast of Cana and Jesus’ miracle of turning water into wine at a happy family event and in so doing revealed to the family and guests that God is at home among His people. God is indeed located with us in our homes sharing our everyday ordinary and special moments, rescuing even those dire times of challenge to give us hope and joy. May we know many bethophanies in our home life this Spring. Amen.

Adrienne

## Fête Cheese & Wine Evening Tuesday February 4th in the Parish Centre, 8-9.30pm.

You are cordially invited to the Fete Cheese & Wine evening to discuss plans for Rathfarnham Parish Summer Fête ‘25.



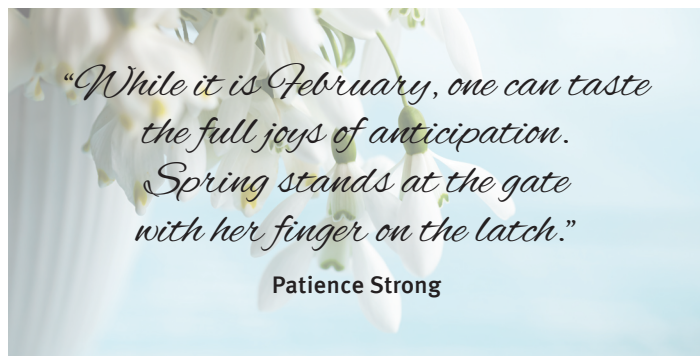
Please join us for some delicious nibbles and a glass of wine to review the arrangements for the Parish Fête which will be held on **Saturday 24th May at The High School, Rathgar.**

Last year was a huge success achieving approx. **€33,000.** So much thanks is due to our volunteers who gave so generously of your time, and we look forward to an equally brilliant Rathfarnham Parish Fête this year - it’s always a great day for the Parish and the wider community.

We heartily thank **Lynn Storey** for her legendary efforts over many years organising both the Fête and Covid times Drive-Through Fair as she steps back this year. We are truly grateful Lynn.

This year, after very successfully steering us through our Summer Fêtes in recent years, **Ross Shorten** is also handing over the reins. Having created a very streamlined approach to the Fête, we are hugely indebted to Ross and sincerely thank him.

We look forward to seeing volunteers, stallholders and new faces on the 4th. **The Fete Committee.**



## Parish Diary for February

The 10.30am in-person Sunday service is also live-streamed and is available on the Parish YouTube channel after 24 hours at [www.youtube.com/channel/UCso-NPjtC4skX-mIKICJ-jA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCso-NPjtC4skX-mIKICJ-jA).



**Each Thursday** 10.30am Holy Communion 2 service in the Millennium Side Chapel

**Each Sunday** 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1

**Sunday 2nd** 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1  
10.30am Candlemas Morning Prayer



**Sunday 9th** 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1  
10.30am Worshipping God Together



**Sunday 16th** 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1  
10.30am Morning Prayer

**Sunday 23rd** 8am & 12 noon Holy Communion 1  
10.30am Holy Communion and Sunday Club



[www.rathfarnhamparishcoi.org](http://www.rathfarnhamparishcoi.org)



Please remember in your prayers those who are exploring their Christian faith as they consider being confirmed in 2025: **Hannah Bowers, Katie Buckley, Aidan Christle, Georgia Deasy, Tom Dillon, Alex Dodd, Zara Douglas, Camilla Dowling, Jack Dwyer, Shane Ireland, Elsie Kirwan, Lexi Kyle, Emmet MacNaughton, Ruby Malone, Euan Sykes, Josh Tilley and Emma Whelan.**

Classes based on the questions and themes chosen by the candidates started back after the Christmas break on Sunday 12th January at 6.30pm in the Church.

**Rathfarnham Parish will be hosting the Rural Deanery Confirmation 2025 service at 10.30am on Sunday 6th April.**

We are looking forward to welcoming **Archbishop Michael Jackson** back to the parish and also the candidates and their families from St Mary’s Crumlin and Zion Parish for this Confirmation service.

## Good News Club

We are in the War Memorial Hall on from 6.45-7.45 on Tuesdays 4th, 11th and 25th February, continuing our exploration of the early church described in the book of Acts. Games and crafts too of course!!

*Good News Club is for 3-6th class children, Tuesdays 6.45pm-7.45pm, in the War Memorial Hall.*

We'd love to see you there! **Adrienne 086 0390866.**



## Sunday Club

We meet roughly twice a month in the Parish Centre during the 10.30am service, where we explore the bible in a fun, child-friendly, child-centred and interactive way.



**Dates for your Diary: Sunday Club in the Parish Centre**

**Sunday February 23rd.**

**Linda O'Connor, Mobile: 087 6383844  
Email: linda.f.oconnor@gmail.com**



## Toddlerzone

Our dates in February are Tuesdays 4th, 11th and 25th, 10-11.30am.

Toddlerzone meets most Tuesday mornings during school term in the Parish Centre from 10-11.30am. If you would like to join us for some sensory play, story and sing-along, please get in touch.

We welcome babies and toddlers with their mums, dads, grannies, grandads and minders, to name just a few, and would love to see you. So come and try us out.

**Linda O'Connor 087 638 3844**



## Wednesday Club

Our next meeting will be on 26th February, at 2.30 pm, in our Parish Centre.

Our speaker will be **Rev. Canon Horace McKinley**. He will speak on the topic of **"Nurturing"**, with some examples from others. Questions will be welcomed. The usual tea, home bakes and chat afterwards! Any parishioner or friend is welcome to attend. **David Whyte 087 782 6054**



## Cubs

Our Cubs had a very busy November and December!

A frosty night hike up in Tibbradden over Nov-Dec saw our last meet up of 2024 where we celebrated with a bowling party.

We also had a bake sale in the War Memorial Hall carpark while the scouts were selling their Christmas trees. We had great fun selling (and eating) our bakes! We hope all our cubs and their families had a wonderful Christmas and wish them all a happy and healthy 2025. We started back on Wed 15th Jan.

**Yours in Scouting, Hilary**



## Guides News

Rathfarnham Senior Branch of Irish Girl Guides, for girls aged 14+, celebrated one of their members, Deirbhile Woods, earning her Silver Gaisce Award



Other members were also all awarded their National Senior Branch Challenge 2024. Congratulations to Deirbhile especially on this high national award and to all the members on their collegiality and great achievements, we are all so proud of them. **Yours in Guiding, Rachel Howe**



## Scouts

A fabulous new year has started at The High School, and with it begins another exciting chapter for Rathfarnham 31st Scouts in 2025.

The High School and Rathfarnham 31st share a strong bond and a rich history in our community, one built on close partnership and tradition. Numerous pupils, both past and present, have been members, as well as Scout and Venture Leaders. Membership extends not just to pupils but also to teachers, staff, and management.

**Links between The High School and Rathfarnham 31st date back to the very foundation of the troop in 1917 and have only grown stronger since then!** I joined Rathfarnham 31st Scouts when I was in First Year, and I can safely say it is one of the best decisions I ever made. It quickly became my absolute favorite extracurricular activity, both in and outside of school. Scouts is a great place to learn skills, both practical and personal. As a Scout progresses through the 'ranks,' they are entrusted with increasing levels of responsibility until they become Patrol Leaders. This is an excellent way to develop leadership and personal responsibility, and it has undoubtedly been a valuable character-building experience for me and my friends who learned these skills alongside me. Being in Scouts is also incredibly fun for everyone involved.

**Rathfarnham 31st Scouts go on annual summer camps to countries across Europe, which are exciting adventures at any age.** During my time in Scouts, I camped in Ireland, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Portugal. Each camp taught me new things about scouting, the world, and the people I travelled with. These camps are great exercises in developing personal independence as you grow older. They also allow you to bond and make friends with others in the troop - a very natural and enjoyable process! I deeply value the friendships I made in Scouts and the friendships that were reinforced through it.

Being part of a troop like Rathfarnham 31st and sharing these experiences creates a sense of community and camaraderie unlike any other. I would encourage anyone interested to join our troop.

**Rathfarnham 31st Scouts meet in the Rathfarnham War Memorial Hall on Friday evenings at 7:30 pm. Male pupils from 1st to 4th Form are all eligible for membership and are welcome to come along to see what being part of our troop is all about!** Yours in Scouting, Leo Shorten

## Rathfarnham Parish National School

Having enjoyed immensely choir training offered by Christ Church Cathedral choir members to our pupils, the school choir joined with 3 other diocesan schools and members of the Cathedral choir at a very special Carols event in the Cathedral on 10th December. It has been quite a highlight of the year!



## Winter Fair Thank You

Howling winds caused last hour adjustments to the stall layout plans but by 2.30pm on Saturday 23rd November all was set up for yet another very successful Winter Fair!

Able directed by Gill Perdue and a large parish team, community groups also lent a great hand too - and when the local Rathfarnham Ukelele Group struck up chords at the Christmas tree everything was in full swing!

**The Vestry had decided that 50% of takings would be donated to the UNICEF Gaza appeal and €4,000 has now been forwarded to UNICEF.**

A huge Thank You to all customers and hands-on parishioners, traders, bakers, Parish Centre Café staffers, crafters, prize donors, lifters and layers, mulled wine/hot chocolate/popcorn makers, Tidy Towns and Women's Shed potters, High School elves and of course Santa and Mrs. Clause ... and all the tidy uppers!

**Yes we had our own 4 hour whirlwind but a very positive one!!!! AG**

## Pop In

Pop In continues on Thursday mornings after the 10.30am service.

If you're in the village between 11am and 12 noon why not pop -in for tea/coffee, treats and chat. **All welcome.**



## Carol Service December 22nd.

On behalf of the High School students who organised the mince pies and mulled wine reception after the Carol Service to fundraise for the Red Cross Middle East appeal, thank you for your very generous response.

Around €1,600 was raised on the night.



## From the Registers

### Funerals

We extend our sincere condolences to **Lucy Watts** on the death of her mother **Phoebe Paxton**, much-loved grandmother of **Stephen** and **Emma**, on 4th December. Phoebe's funeral service was held in Rathfarnham Parish Church on 7th December with interment taking place afterwards in St. Brigid's graveyard Castleknock Parish.

We also offer our heartfelt sympathies to **Grant Marshall** on the death of his beloved wife **Margaret** on 23rd November. Margaret's funeral was held in Rathfarnham Parish Church on Wednesday 27th November followed by a service of committal in Mount Jerome Crematorium.

We extend our sincerest sympathies to **June Wilkinson** and her daughters **Trudi** and **Kelda** and all family members on the unexpected death of June's son **Trevor** on the 28th December. The service of thanksgiving for Trevor's life was held in Rathfarnham Parish Church on 2nd January 2025.

### Interment of Ashes

By kind permission of the Vicar and at the invitation of **Derek, Hazel** and **Gordon Wright**, it was my privilege to inter their mother **Sylvia's** ashes in St Ann's Columbarium beside those of Sylvia's husband Cyril and mother May, on the 8th December 2024.

*Please continue to remember all our parishioners who have lost loved ones as they navigate grief, especially during what is a very different New Year for them all.*

### Wedding

Hearty Congratulations to **Ann Godsil** and **Paul Paterson** on their marriage which took place in Rathfarnham Parish Church on 30th Dec 2024. We wish them much joy and blessing for their future together.

## This issue of NFY is sponsored by

### Lessons for Adults in Ballet and Modern Dance

Rathfarnham Parish Centre, Rathfarnham Village



*So you've always wanted to learn ballet but never got the chance? Well now you can!*

Come along on Wednesday evenings to the Parish Centre in the village. We'll be working the muscles, improving strength, endurance, posture and co-ordination and having FUN!

WEDNESDAYS 5 pm - 6.15 pm

12 WEEK TERM COMMENCES WEDNESDAY 15TH JANUARY

Cost: €10 per lesson or €110 for whole term.

#### WHAT TO WEAR:

Clothing: something comfy - T-shirt & leggings/dance skirt (available at class).

Footwear: Canvas/leather ballet shoes or dance runners. Socks/light runners for first lesson are fine.

Or visit: <https://danceworld.ie> for ideas Contact [gillperdue@gmail.com](mailto:gillperdue@gmail.com) for more details.



# Thank you

Many organisations who were recipients of our charitable giving over the Christmas have expressed their sincere gratitude to all parishioners for your generosity.

An Cosán (for toys, seasonal treats and clothes), **Darndale Belcamp Integrated Childcare Services** (for toys, seasonal treats and nonperishable items), **The Mendicity Institution** (for men's clothes), **Saoirse** (toys, clothes and Jan'25 pyjamas appeal), **Red Cross Middle East Crisis Appeal**, **UNICEF** (Gaza appeal), Through our Charitable giving at Christmas we also distributed over €3,000 on your behalf to many local and mission charities such as **Tearfund**, **POS**, **PACT**, **Protestant Aid**, **Country Air Association**, **Mission to Seafarers**, the **Diocesan Board of Education**, **Youth Horizons**, **Glorney Trust**. *Thank you for making this possible*

## Parish Contacts

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Email: [revmikebuchanan@gmail.com](mailto:revmikebuchanan@gmail.com)

**Choir Director & Organist** Jacqueline Mullen, Paul Mullen  
Email: [music.rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com](mailto:music.rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com)

**Diocesan Readers** Joan Forsdyke, Philip Middleton

**Sunday Service** Gerry Wilson, Joan Carty, David Howe, Josh Farrell  
**Streaming:** Morgan Bardon

**Parish Secretary** Kim Bardon 01 490 5543  
Monday - Friday mornings 9.30am-12.30pm

Email: [rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com](mailto:rathfarnhamparish@gmail.com)

**Hon Secretary** Andy Kyle 086 3855279

**Hon Treasurer** Jonathan Mills 01 494 3605

**Churchwardens (Rector's)** George Kennington 086 836 6637  
**(People's)** Andrew Shorten 087 774 8208

**Glebe wardens (Rector's)** George James 087 988 8754  
**(People's)** Alan McMillan 087 260 1799

**Stewardship** Eamonn Cooke 087 709 3066

**Toddlerzone** Lynn Storey 087 695 7061

**Sunday Club** Linda O'Connor 087 638 3844

**Good News Club** Corinna O'Dwyer 087 666 3594

**National School** Principal Eoin Leonard 01 494 3470

**Church Review** Pam Shorten 01 493 7179

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