

ST MATTHEW'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

June 2021

MESSAGE FROM REV NIALL STRATFORD

It is happening! What is? Living life apart from family and friends for so many, seems to have lasted for eternity- life is slowly returning towards the familiar. However we must not forget all those for whom Covid 19 has left and continues to leave an indelible mark. The many ,many families whose loved ones fell victim to this virus, those who contracted this virus and have recovered but only partially, those who are currently ill, those who remain out of work as a result of ongoing restrictions specific to their profession, to their line of business, those whose livelihoods have been devastated.



One of the early 'slogans' associated with this pandemic was: 'We are in this together' . How true that was and is. Another is 'We're not there yet'. If I was to choose but one word to summarise such sentiments- it would be 'Respect'. Respect for ourselves- respect for others- respect for our community and respect for the environment.

The arrival of the great weather is a sign- a sign that it must be exam season again! Exams are happening and for some have already happened. Our thoughts are especially with the Leaving Certificate Class of 2021 who have endured 2 years of, probably ,unique challenges to 'normal' learning and study. You have endured and we remember you in our prayers.

We are indeed in this together – the challenge to each of us ,is to look out for each other – to respect each other.

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets”.- Matthew 7 v 12

Best wishes

Niall



A FINAL RESTING PLACE

The St Matthew's Church Columbarium Wall is now available to book a final resting place for your loved ones in the Community. For more details and to receive a Brochure, call the St Matthews Parish Office on 087 254 0378 or email Jonny Bell at

jonathanbell61@gmail.com

UNA LONG 1927 - 2021

In Una's young days she served in St. Matthew's Parish as a Sunday School teacher while working in the China Show Rooms. Later she moved to Belfast to work in administration in the Belfast office of BCMS Crosslinks from 1969 to 1992. During that time she travelled regularly to the Malaga Media Centre in Spain, a broadcasting ministry to North Africa, assisting in their work.



In retirement she returned in 2008 to Sandymount where she brought a great impact to St Matthew's Parish by instigating the Friendship Hour which became a well attended monthly gathering drawing in people from different churches and the community. Speakers ranged from reps of Charities like "Guide Dogs" to Missions like "Fields of Life", and Travel Adventurers as well!

Una was laid to rest at the Garden Chapel, Mount Jerome in the presence of her family and friends. She will be missed very much by her friends who give God thanks for her wonderful Christian life

Written by a lifelong friend

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH ENVELOPE SCHEME



If you would like to donate through the Church Envelope Scheme, you can put an Envelope on the Collection plate at Sunday Service. As a registered Charity St Matthews can depending on amounts donated reclaim Income Tax on Parishioner donations.

For more details please contact the Parish office on 087 254 0378, or ask one of the Church Wardens.

THE OLD RECTORY

A little piece of nostalgia! Here is a photograph of the old St Matthew's Parish Rectory. The building was where the Irishtown Garda Station is now (opposite the Church)



PARISH CONTACTS

Rector (Acting)

Rev Niall Stratford 086 607 8290

Pastoral Care

Canon Andrew McCroskery 01 269 4813

Parish Administration

Jonathan Bell Tel: 087 254 0378

Nicky Bell Tel: 087 688 7049

Hon Secretary

Lindy Farmer Tel: 087 2246203

Hon Treasurer

Jonathan Bell Tel: 087 254 0378

Church Wardens

Miriam Hollowed (Rector's), Geraldine Wallace (People's),

Virginia Stewart (People's)

Glebe Wardens

Robbie Hamilton (Rector's)

Select Vestry

Lindy Farmer, Jonathan Bell, Gordon Kelley, Miriam Hollowed, Gladys Raethorne, Robbie Hamilton, Claire Wheeler, Steve Griffiths, Virginia Stewart, Karen Woods, John Wallace, Geraldine Wallace

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