

ST MATTHEW'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

October 2021

MESSAGE FROM REV NIALL STRATFORD

'Use Alternative Route'. An announcement or sign that is likely to be familiar to many of us. But what does it mean? You might well say – isn't it obvious! It means go another way. Indeed it does. But could there be more to this than meets the eye?

Could it be a warning? Perhaps of impending danger.

COP 26 is a global climate conference that will be taking place in Glasgow commencing at the end of October 2021. Should we be interested? Should we take note of what is happening?

It is an international summit involving leaders and decision makers from around the globe. One word that may likely dominate this event is '*Targets*'. Reference will be made to previous agreements and specifically the Paris Agreement of 2015 wherein the aim was to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees. The importance of this figure of itself may be lost. We may consider that we would welcome a temperature uplift of 1.5 degrees or more! However we live in a global village- deeds here have consequences elsewhere and vice versa.

We – humankind- have already interfered with the fine balance of the global ecosystem with devastating results.

Sometimes, indeed sadly perhaps often, we live our lives without concern for the impact we are having on our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world. Sometimes this is as a result of blissful ignorance - sometimes it is as a result of being selfish – always it has an impact on others and usually those in the poorest nations on earth.

There will likely be billions and billions of words written about COP 26. It is probably not overstating the issue by saying that the decisions reached at this conference will impact and determine the fate of the world for centuries. *Should we be interested?*

Our actions – our interactions- day by day ,matter. We have a responsibility to pass on the earth to the next generation- not in the same condition as we inherited it- but in a better condition. '*Use Alternative Route* '!

"We must not promise what we ought not, lest we be called upon to perform what we cannot"

Abraham Lincoln.

Best wishes

Niall

Rev Niall Stratford



THE MARCHANT COLUMBARIUM WALL

On the 19th September the Parish were delighted to welcome our recently retired Rector, Rev John Marchant and his wife Pat back to the Church for Sunday Service

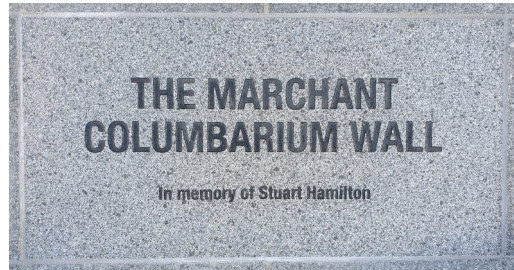
After the Service Rev Niall Stratford conducted a short ceremony to dedicate the Columbarium Wall to Rev John Marchant in memory of the late Stuart Hamilton. The Marchant Columbarium Wall has provided a final resting place for family members of Parishioners and the Community.



Mrs Pat Marchant & Rev John Marchant



Rev John Marchant, Most Reverend Michael Jackson, Archbishop of Dublin & Glendalough, and Miriam Hollowed, Rector's Church Warden at the Blessing of the Columbarium Wall on the 28th February 2021



NEWS & EVENTS

24th October 2021

Harvest Thanksgiving Service at 10.30am

7th November 2021

Remembrance Day Service at 10.30am

During the Remembrance Day Service local historian & photographer Patrick Hugh Lynch will give a talk **'Remember the Past and Enrich the Future'**

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.

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.

To contact by email:

jonathanbell61@gmail.com