

IRISHTOWN & DONNYBROOK PARISH NEWSLETTER

March 2024

A NOTE FROM THE RECTOR

Have you ever noticed that things which we would have said were impossible become possible when we have got to do them? It was Thomas Edison who said that the only difference between the difficult and the impossible is that the impossible takes a little longer. It is one of the encouraging things in life, and in our Christian lives that when we are asked to carry a heavy load or to take on a difficult task or challenge that we find strength and help that we never knew we had. Time and time again people say to me that despite the dreadful situation which they find themselves in that they experience a peace and a strength which they never knew they had.



It happened again this week. I know someone whose husband died suddenly recently. Despite the situation she is in she told me that she feels a tremendous sense of peace and assurance.

Her Christian faith is the assurance which gives her that strength and hope.

You may be familiar with this prayer which is often used in church.

“May the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord”. (2 Thessalonians 3:16)

From time to time, it occurs to me that some people hearing the words “which passes all understanding” must think to themselves what do they mean? I know that many people have experienced that peace for themselves at the most unexpected of times in their lives.

Many supports are available to us when we face difficult times in life. With the Lord’s help may you find the peace and the strength to do that difficult thing or carry that heavy load in your life when you need to.

God Bless

Rev Leonard



A FINAL RESTING PLACE

The St Matthew’s Church Columbarium Wall is 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

THE REDEDICATION SERVICE

The re-opening and rededication Service of the Church took place on the 18th February 2024 at 3pm hosted by Archbishop Michael Jackson. The event was attended by many local Clergy and representative from politicians and An Garda Síochana.

A presentation was made to the Project Co-Ordinator Nicky Stronge for her dedication and commitment to the completion of the works carried out in the Church.

We were delighted welcome back to St Matthew's Rev John Marchant and Rev Niall Stratford.



SERVICES IN MARCH 2024

Sunday 3rd March

Holy Communion 10.30am

Thursday 7th March

Holy Communion 10.30am

Sunday 10th March

General Easter Vestry Meeting following Morning Prayer 10.30am

Thursday 14th March

Holy Communion 10.30am

Sunday 17th March

Holy Communion 10.30am

Thursday 21st March

Holy Communion 10.30am

Sunday 24th March

Palm Sunday—Morning Service 10.30am

Wednesday 27th March

Service of Wholeness and Healing 10.30am

Thursday 28th March

Maundy Thursday—Holy Communion 10.30am

Friday 29th March

Good Friday—Service for Good Friday 2pm

Sunday 31st March

Easter Sunday—Holy Communion 10.30am

PARISH CONTACTS

Rector

Rev. Canon Leonard Ruddock Tel: 087 677 2009

Parish Administration

Jonathan Bell Tel: 087 254 0378

Nicky Stronge Tel: 087 688 7049

Hon Secretary

Lindy Farmer Tel: 087 2246203

Hon Treasurer

Jonathan Bell Tel: 087 254 0378

Church Wardens

Valerie Matthews (Rector's), Avril Gillatt (People's)

Glebe Wardens

John Wallace (Rector's), Steve Griffiths (People's)

Select Vestry

Lindy Farmer, Jonathan Bell, Lyndon MacCann, Miriam Hollowed, Gladys Raethorne, Avril Gillatt, Claire Wheeler, Steve Griffiths, Virginia Stewart, Karen Woods, John Wallace, Trevor James

To contact the Parish by email:

jonathanbell61@gmail.com