



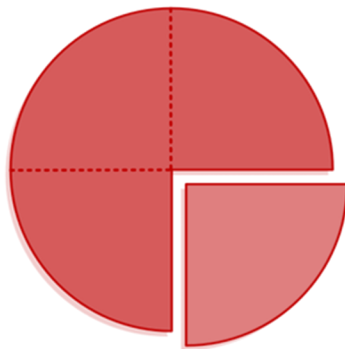
Kill O'The Grange Church of Ireland

Vol. 3 No. 2

2ND QUARTER

APRIL
TO
JUNE
2021

PARISH

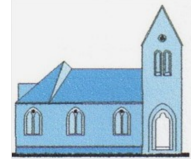


NEWSLETTER



To Love and Serve the Lord

CHURCH SERVICES



***PLEASE NOTE: Please read the information on page 4.
Online services continue on our website www.kotg.ie: choose
ONLINE SERVICES.***

SUNDAYS (AVAILABLE ONLINE)

8.30 a.m.

Holy Communion
(Every Sunday)

10.30 a.m.

Service of the Word
(1st & 2nd Sunday)

'All In' Service
(3rd Sunday)

Holy Communion
(4th Sunday)

Holy Communion or Service of the Word
(5th Sunday)

Sunday Evening Prayer

OTHER

- ♦ **Daily Devotionals:** Available online daily
- ♦ **Tuesday Evening Prayer:** 7- 8 p.m. In lieu of our usual Prayer Meetings. Please pray in your homes at this time, enabling us to pray together while staying apart.
- ♦ **Special Service Booklets** distributed *via* mail by Bert Van Embden. Please see page 6.

RECTOR'S LETTER

APRIL-JUNE 2021



Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation. (Isaiah 25:8b-9)

He is alive! He is Risen! We celebrate with these words every year, and yet it may feel that these words this year have different meaning. Why? Because of our experiences from the year past. Any time I rewatch a movie, or read a book it can impact me differently because I come to that film or book differently each time. All of us have had different pressures on us since our last season of Easter. Love wins. Love always does. Christ is with us in all the pressure, stress, isolation, suffering, grief, joy, peace, beauty and love. Diamonds, once soft black carbon, become beautiful and radiant white lightening under pressure. Just like the treasure hidden in a field (Matthew 13:44), the love of Christ is revealed in His life, death and resurrection. We have been called to be that light, that love, that resurrection to all around us. Bring people around you into that love of Christ so all may know the love of Jesus.

Blessings,

Alan

Alan has been appointed by the Archbishop of Dublin as chairperson of the Dublin & Glendalough Youth Council.

Congratulations, Alan!

REVISED COVID-19 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PARISH CHURCH AND OFFICE

Online Services:

Our online services and daily devotionals will continue to be released on www.kotg.ie

We expect a Government announcement will be made early in April on the hopeful easing of the current lockdown. It may allow us to resume actual services, subject to social distancing and all precautions against COVID-19. It's encouraging to note that some parishioners have already received their first vaccination against the disease. Do please keep in touch with us for the latest information.

Parish Office:

From 12th April onwards, the Parish Office will be open each weekday morning. However, the Parish Centre itself continues to remain closed. If you wish to collect or drop anything to the Office, please be mindful of wearing a mask and adhering to hand hygiene. The office hatch window will be open to assist with queries. As always, the office team may be contacted via e-mail at office@kotg.ie

Private Prayer in Church:

Starting on Thursday 11th March, we were very happy to reopen the church for private prayer, for two hours from 10 a.m., and on each following Thursday. As always, masks must be worn entering the building and please adhere to hand hygiene upon entry. This Thursday opening includes Maundy Thursday 1st April. Please note: The church will not be open for private prayer on Thursday 8th April but this will resume on Thursday 15th April.

Lenten Parish Prayer Meetings Online:

As a church community we have greatly missed being able to gather together. However, many of us have been able to "gather" virtually via various Zoom groups. During Lent, we have met *via* Zoom each Tuesday for a short prayer time. We are conscious of many needs globally and individually and long to make a space where we can bring them to God in prayer. *Please note: There will be no prayer meeting on Tuesday 6th April.*

These gatherings have been a great encouragement to those of us who have participated and prayed together!

Easter Messy Church:

The Messy Church Team are delighted to announce that we will be hosting a [MessyChurch@home](https://www.kotg.ie/messy-church-at-home) event from Good Friday 2nd April to Easter Sunday. It will be held over WhatsApp as before. The theme will be "Bee Attitudes" and is going to be a lot of fun! This event is aimed at families but is open to all! We will be giving out activity bags with content and goodies for the event.



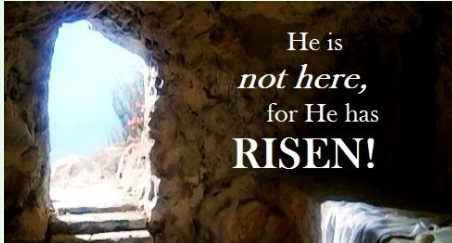
If you would like one, please reserve in advance to Seb by e-mail at children@kotg.ie or by 'phone/WhatsApp to (089) 472 3063. There will be a semi-limited number of bags, so make sure to order early to avoid disappointment.

Do You Need Help?

There are volunteers within our Parish that are available and keen to help anyone with shopping or other tasks while COVID-19 is so active in our community. Please contact the Parish Office at office@kotg.ie if you know of anyone who might need this help.

Easter Sunday Online Services

The following three services will be available on our website www.kotg.ie on Easter Sunday 4th April:



- Holy Communion
- Easter Sunday service
- Evening Prayer

General (Easter) Vestry



The 2021 Easter Vestry will be held, *via* Zoom as last year, on **Thursday 22nd April**, at 7.30 p.m.

The agenda will include the election of the Select Vestry for the year 2021 / 2022.

Details will be circulated by e-mail during the month.

We hope that as many registered Vestry members will take part in this, the Parish's Annual General Meeting.

KOTG Kids' Club

Kids' Club will be off for the Easter break and will be back on Wednesday 14th April. We hope you have an enjoyable two weeks.

Wednesday Kids' Club is split into two classes running from 6.30-7.45 on Wednesday evenings for primary school aged children.

If you have not been involved with this and you would like your child to be once we have once more resumed, please contact Seb. His e-mail is children@kotg.ie or you can contact him by 'phone or WhatsApp to (089) 472 3063.



Have a very Happy Easter!

Kids' Club Team

Gift Day

We plan to hold a Parish Gift Day in May. Again, details will be announced as soon as possible.

Pause for Thought

Jesus is never upset at sinners. He is only upset with people who do not think they are sinners.

Father Richard Rohr (b. 1943)

See Luke 18: 9-14—The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

SAFEGUARDING TRUST

Please note that all children and teens must have fully completed a consent form in order to attend their respective group. Kill O'The Grange fully complies with the Church of Ireland's **Safeguarding Trust Policy** for the protection of children and young people under 18 in our care. Details are available on our website and upon request.



PLEASE NOTE!

While the COVID-19 pandemic remains with us:

- Monthly services in nursing homes, organized by Bert Van Embden, are suspended until further notice.
- Special services, e.g. Evening Service, have been prepared by Bert Van Embden, and can be distributed in booklet form. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact the Parish Office at office@kotg.ie or leave a voicemail on the Parish Office phone which is checked on an *ad hoc* basis during the current restrictions.

The Parish's response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Here at Kill O'The Grange we want to make sure that we don't stop being a community during this difficult time. It is in times like these that we need to look out for each other and take care of each other.

On our website, www.kotg.ie, we provide the option ONLINE SERVICES, where you can find:

- Sunday Services;
- Prayer Resources;
- Prayer Requests;
- Daily Devotional.

We would also like to remind you that if you need assistance in any way, the Church also has a team of people who are willing and ready to help. We could bring groceries to your home, collect medicines or even help you with some work in the garden! Please do contact us at office@kotg.ie or rector@kotg.ie.

THE STOREHOUSE COLLECTION

The Storehouse would normally welcome donations of food items at this time of year. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions this year, should you wish to donate, they would very much welcome a Lidl voucher of any denomination you wish. These vouchers can then be put to good use purchasing required items. You can drop vouchers into the Office.



If you have any questions, please contact Averil Brennan.

Stewardship Scheme

The stewardship envelopes for 2021 are now available.

Please contact the Parish Office at office@kotg.ie if you wish to obtain envelopes for this year.

FUNDRAISER

As you may know, our dear friend Sheila Murphy had been recovering in the National Rehabilitation Hospital after a life changing illness in September 2020. Her family launched a fund to cover the essential work needed to Sheila and Peter's home to enable a comfortable homecoming.

We are delighted to report that on 6th March the target of €60,000 was exceeded (grand total €60,530), and that Sheila was able to return to her refurbished home on 9th March. The fund is now closed. We thank our faithful Lord for His goodness in making this happen, and in sustaining Sheila so wonderfully throughout.



SHEILA MURPHY – FUNDRAISER

Sent on behalf of Sheila on 9th March 2021- Coming home day!

The target of €60,000 was reached, and the renovations are nearing completion.

Well, you did it! You managed to “Speed Sheila Home” and Pete and I will be eternally grateful, for kindness, love, support, financial and every other sort. We have set out a list below, followed by a poem written recently by our youngest daughter Calli, which expresses very well what we feel about you all.

Thanks to: 4 Amigos, Gagas (you know who you are), KOTG Church families, Castle Park families and friends, Peter's hockey fraternity, friends, family including Clara, neighbours, Peter's caterers (who kept him so well fed), singers, anonymous donors; top of the list should be Mark, Helen, Gayle, Gill and Calli, without whom none of this would have happened.

Gratitude, by Calli Murphy

How can I say thank you?

How do I show the gratitude of a heartfelt gesture,
A hand of support when my feet slip?
Is it enough to just use the words I hear every day?
Cheers to Teacher, Bus Driver, Preacher.
Can it ever be enough to make you feel what I need to say?

For the home-cooked dinner, Pyrex encased, ready for heating and eating for days?

Do I just return the dish with a note and a wish
Of thanks and too kind and I hope you don't mind.
How do I really let you know that my heart swells
With every word, thought, prayer that wells
And grows in my soul and keeps me strong, calm and that I belong.

I don't think I am articulate enough,
Eloquent, erudite, well-spoken, polite
To pass on the murmurs and shouts of appreciation
Living within me and longing to burst free

And echo from rooftops, thunder through caves,
Rushing like water and breaking like waves.
For all that has happened, and yet more that will come
My lack of vocabulary and polish, decorum
Make it a challenge, a fearful endeavour
If my words aren't enough to convey the fervour
Of my gratitude and delight with your help in my plight.
I know my words will never be enough
But I need to make a start and open my heart to you
And so, let me begin to simply say,

Thank You.



Youth Clubs



The last few months here at KOTG have been a positive time for so many of us, even through the current chaos. We have had the chance to have a few theme nights in Core and have most excitingly been able to take our own time to remember Easter and all that means to us and our community.

We are hopeful for the next few months. With summer fast approaching, we are looking at what we can do as a group. Last summer we held outdoor events in the Church car park, and if it's safe do so, we will hopefully be doing the same. We are also eager to welcome in the current sixth class. Taking time every year to do it is an important part of our group and who we want to be.

We also took the chance to make and send out Easter cards to some of the older people in the Church. We know that for many, these past few months have been hard, and we hope that little cards like this will help people feel more connected to the church. *[See some of the wonderful cards below!]*

Please pray for Core and our Bible study as we continue to navigate school, our friendships, and our own health, as well as for us as a youth group and all that we try to do.

For more info on Core and what we do, please contact Jonathan Byford at: (089) 436 2287 / youth@kotg.ie.



*Jonathan Byford
Youth Pastor*



Children and Family

Over the last few months, we have been running our Wednesday Kids' Club over Zoom. We have been getting up to lots of fun including Easter Card making, a St. Patrick's Day themed session and a special visit from Reuben Evans, amongst more! This is a club for primary school aged kids, and it is running on Wednesday evenings from 6.30-7.45. This is a time where we get to see each other's faces and have a bit fun through some games and exploring a part of the Bible. If your child is not part of this, and they would like to be, please contact me either by e-mail at children@kotg.ie or by phone/WhatsApp at (089) 472 3063, and I'd love to get them involved.

From Good Friday, April 2nd until Easter Sunday, April 4th, the Messy Church Team of Sonya Fromholz, Hilda Shepherd and me hosted the online event "Bee Attitudes". This was running over WhatsApp. Any attendees got a goodie bag full of bits and pieces for the activities and fun and games in advance. We shared photos of all the fun happening in our homes to share the joy. If you were not involved in this and would like to be involved in any future Messy Church events, please let me know.

*Seb Dungan
Children's and Family Worker*

SUNDAY CLUB

MaxPack

CRECHE

Messy Church



South Sudanese Christians in Maridi Diocese sharing bread and tea.

PHOTO: South Sudanese Christians in Maridi Diocese sharing bread and tea

2020 must be the year to throw away “the old and outdated practices of hatred”. So says the Archbishop of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan in his New Year message.

In an open letter to “my fellow South Sudanese”, the Most Rev Justin Badi Arama introduced the Church’s focus for the year ahead: the phrase from the Lord’s Prayer “Thy Kingdom Come”.

“To request for God’s kingdom to come means to request for God’s rule to be practical in the lives and hearts of his children,” he writes.

“This means our decisions, our actions must always reflect kingdom values of love, peace, forgiveness and reconciliation. The old and outdated practices of hatred, divisions and violence must be thrown away this year, 2020.”

This is a longing that surely reflects the hearts of millions of South Sudanese after the last six years of civil war. The fighting has killed 400,000 people and displaced a further 4 million – more than a third of the population – including many refugees in northern Uganda.



Archbishop Justin Badi Arama (in robes) with L-R: Stephen Burgess, CMS regional manager for Africa; Karobia Njogu of CMS-Africa; and Joseph Noel Sati, CMS-Africa country co-ordinator for South Sudan.

There has been an agonising peace process. A ceasefire in September 2018 has largely held, but the next major step of forming a government of national unity has been much more difficult. Two deadlines were missed in 2019. Now the scheduled date for forming the government is February 2020.

There have been positive peaceful moves in preparation for this next stage, including bringing warring troops together. Training of both government and rebel troops to form a united army is going forward in multiple training camps.

There have been other pieces of good news too.

President Salva Kiir has issued pardons to 30 “high profile” (i.e., political) prisoners held in Juba. The best-known, Peter Biar, had been jailed for two years for giving interviews to the media during a stand-off between guards and inmates at the National Security HQ.

In Yei River State, 23 civilians who were allegedly abandoned by government forces and picked up by the National Salvation Front during clashes have been handed over to the International Red Cross to be reunited with their families.

Also in Yei River State, a four-year old boy, who had been kidnapped during fighting between armed groups in Morobo county last October, has been released and re-united with his father (his mother was killed in the fighting).

North of the border in Sudan, there is more good news. The new government in Sudan has said it is possible to reach a comprehensive peace agreement with all rebel groups, both in the Blue Mountains and South Kordofan, and in Darfur, by the end of February. There are still clashes in Darfur, but they are between local tribes, and UN agencies are working to help them.

Published: 8 January 2021

NEW BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF YEI, EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SOUTH SUDAN



The Synod of the Diocese of Yei in South Sudan took place over the weekend of February 13/14 and the names of two prospective candidates for bishop have been forwarded to the House of Bishops meeting in Juba.

This follows the retirement of Bishop Hilary Luete Adeba earlier this year, and it is anticipated that the name of the new Bishop of Yei will be announced by April.

PASTORAL VISITS

Pastoral visits at bedsides, in homes, in nursing homes and hospitals are taking place by 'phone call instead of through personal visits during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you know of anyone who would like to be contacted by 'phone, please use the numbers below.

If you know of anyone who would like a pastoral visit, please contact us by 'phone or e-mail (details below.) The Rector and Bert Van Embden will follow up on all requests received.

Bert Van Embden – Lay Pastoral Worker

Tel. (Mobile): (087) 063 8772

Tel.: (Parish Office): 289 6442 E-mail: office@kotq.ie

A PRAYER WRITTEN BY ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL JACKSON IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Almighty and All-loving God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
we pray to you through Christ the Healer for those who suffer from the
Coronavirus COVID-19
in Ireland and across the world.
We pray too for all who reach out to all those who mourn the loss of each
and every person who has died as a result of contracting the disease.
Give wisdom to policymakers,
skill to researchers,
comfort to everyone in distress
and a sense of calm to us all in these days of uncertainty and distress.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord
who showed compassion to the outcast,
acceptance to the rejected
and love to those to whom no love was shown.
Amen.

KIDS' PAGE

It's Easter! Thank Jesus that He will always be with us and will never leave us.

THE EMOJI EASTER STORY



Easter is about Jesus coming to pay for our sins because He loves us so much! *John 3:16*



Jesus had to die on the day we now call Good Friday to pay for all the times we sin and disobey God. *Mark 15:37-38*



After Jesus died He was in the tomb for 3 days before something amazing happened. *Mark 15:42-47*



About the time the sun was coming up on the third day, some of Jesus' friends went to the tomb, not knowing what they would find. *Luke 24:1*



When Jesus' friends got to the tomb, they found an angel who told them Jesus was alive! *Luke 24:2-7*



All of Jesus' friends were surprised and happy when they found out He was alive and saw Him for the first time! *John 20:14-17*



Soon after Jesus came back to life, He went back to heaven and His disciples watched him go. *Luke 24:50-53*



Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His disciples to tell everyone the good news that anyone who believes in Jesus as their Saviour can live with Him forever in heaven. *Matthew 28:16-20*

Source: (modified)

<https://www.childrens-ministry-deals.com/products/the-emoji-easter-story>



Parish Prayer Diary 2021

1st—10th April (including Good Friday and Easter Sunday)

Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ! Dying you destroyed our death; rising you restored our life!

Easter Collect: O God who for our redemption gave your only begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy; Grant us so to die daily from sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

11th—17th April

Ascension Day Collect:

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only Son our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into the heavens; so may we in heart and mind also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

18th—24th April (including Whitsunday)

Whitsunday Collect:

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: By the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

“Breathe on me, breath of God, / Fill me with life anew.

*That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly thine;
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with thy fire divine”*

25th April—1st May (including Trinity Sunday)

Trinity Sunday Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; for you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.

*“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty,
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty;
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

The rota of prayers for Parishioners is on page 19.

Parish Prayer Diary 2021



2nd—8th May

Prayers for the Church:

Almighty God, we praise you for the blessings brought to the world through your Church. We bless you for the grace of the sacraments, for our fellowship in Christ with you and each other, for the teaching of the Scriptures, and for the preaching of your word. We thank you for the holy example of your saints, for your faithful servants departed this life, and for the memory and example of all that was good and true in their lives. Number us with them in the company of the redeemed in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

9th—15th May

Prayer for absent friends:

O God, you are present in every place; Mercifully hear our prayers for those whom we love now absent from us; watch over them, we beseech you, and protect them in all anxiety, danger and temptation; teach us and them to know that you are always near, and that we are one in you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer of thanksgiving:

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed on us.
For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.
For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,
For our daily food and drink, our homes and families and friends,
For minds to think and hearts to love and hands to serve,
For health and strength to work and leisure to rest and play,
For the brave and courageous who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty and justice,
For the communion of saints in all times and all places,
Above all we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises in Christ Jesus our Lord.

16th—22nd May

Pray for those suffering:

the hungry....the refugees....the prisoners....the persecuted....
all who bring sin and suffering to others.....
all who seek to bring care and relief...

Prayer for healing:

Heavenly Father, we pray that you will heal the sick, raise the fallen, strengthen the faint hearted and enfold in your love the fearful, and those who have no hope.
In the fullness of time complete your gracious work. Reconcile all things in Christ and make them new. Restore us in your image, renew us in your love, that we may serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many thanks to **Heather Jackson**, who has written this Prayer Diary.

[Prayers concluded on next page.]



Parish Prayer Diary 2021

23rd—29th May

Prayer for Truth:

O Lord, give us deeper reverence for the truth, and such wisdom in the use of knowledge that your kingdom may be advanced and your name glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

“Thou art the Truth: thy word alone / True wisdom can impart; / Thou only canst inform the mind, / And purify the heart.

Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: / Grant us that Way to know, / That Truth to keep, that Life to win, / Whose joys eternal flow.”

30th May—5th June

Collect for Peace:

Almighty God from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: Kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace; and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Jesus said: “Peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled neither let them be afraid”

6th—12th June

For the Mission of the Church, especially remembering Gillian and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda, our partners in South Sudan, Bishop Hilary (and his successor) and Cosmas Gwagwe and the work of CMSI.

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up in the cross, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

13th—20th June

Let us pray for personal relationships:

the home, and family life / Children deprived of home / Friends, relations and neighbours. Relationships in daily life and work / Those who are estranged...those who feel unloved... All ministries of care...

21st—30th June

A Prayer of the Eastern Church:

Be mindful, O Lord, of your people here before you, and of those who are absent through age, sickness, or infirmity. Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, encourage the faint hearted, collect the scattered and bring back the wandering to your fold. Travel with the voyagers, defend the widows, shield the orphans, deliver the captives, heal the sick. Succour all who are in tribulation, necessity or distress. Remember for good all those that love us, and those that hate us, and those that have desired us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. And those whom we have forgotten, do you, O Lord, remember. For you are the helper of the helpless, the Saviour of the lost, the refuge of the wanderer, the healer of the sick. You, who know the need of each one, and has heard their prayer, grant unto each, according to your merciful loving-kindness and your eternal love: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Diary

April—June 2021

Pray for:

Arnold and Miriam Edge; Gladys M. Ellaway; Joy Elliott; Sam and Ann Farrar; Stanley and Sandra Faulkner; Mark and Diane Faulkner, Martha Beth, Leah and Poppy Rose; Michael and Trudy Fearon; Cara Fearon; Pat and Sandy Feenan; Keith Feenan; Andrew Finney, and Lydia; Gráinne Fitzgerald; Emma Fogarty; Robert and Sonya Fromholz, Mia, Benjamin and Mollie; Houghton and Heather Fry; Mark and Denise Fry, James, Charlie and Blake; Niall and Diane Funge, and Oisín; Brian Gageby.

Neville and Cora Galloway; Michael and Rosemary Gibbons; Paddy and Nichola Gibbons, Noah and Harley; Bob and Maureen Gilbert; Ruth Gilmartin; Florence Gilmore; Naomi and Mark Good and Senna; Owen Goodbody; Anita Goodbody; Ferran and Jean Glenfield; Michael Glenfield; Richard Glenfield; Esther Glenfield; Angel Graham; George Grey; Ruth Griffin; Douglas and Ruth Groves; Mark and Helen Groves, Emily, Kirsten and Anna; Russell and Tracy Hadley, Courtney and Daniella.

Blair Halliday; Daragh and Tara Hanley, and Dylan; Frank and Sonja Hanrahan, Alexander and Julia; Esther Hardy; Russell Harris, and Eli; Matthew Harris; Isaac Harris; Lucy Harris; Suzanne Harris; Ronald and Lyrall Hay; Helen Hearnden; Sarah Hearnden; Walter and Maud Hegarty; Rachel Hehir, and Holly; Louis and Liz Hemmings; Lawrence Hemmings; Luke Hemmings; Iris Heuston; Simon and Norah Hoffman, and Zoë; Rachel Hoffman; Sarah Hoffman; Ian and Jenny Horner, Samuel and Leo.

Emma Horsfield; Karl Horsfield; Sarah Horsfield; Karen Houston, Liberty Bell, Holden and Hunter; Noël Hughes; Alan and Rosie Hunt; Suzanne Hunt; Alexandra Hunt; Fred Jackson; Heather Jackson; Austin and Beulah Jasper, and Shadrach; Bruce and Marianne Johnson; Kristan Johnson; William and Kathleen Johnson, and Fredrick; Leila Johnson; Andrew Jones and Fiona O'Sullivan, Jessica and Patrick; Nick and Dorothy Jones, Bethany and William; Rachel Joyce, Alexander and Harry; Maggie Kane; Paul and Rachel Kane, Sophie, Joshua and Lydia.



Olaakas—December 2020

FROM GILL AND CARLOS OLAAKA IN UGANDA

March 2021

Dear KOTG family,

Warm greetings from Kampala and at least I know that it is slightly warmer in Dublin now, than the last time we wrote in December! I trust that as the ‘winter blues’ fade a bit and the greenness of spring can be seen once again that you and yours are doing well and coping with all the challenges life is bringing so many people. We were glad to hear about the progress of vaccinations, and that Irish schools are beginning to re-open, as they are here; however, in Uganda, despite the COVID-19 infection rates being extremely low (thankfully), school re-opening here is still very slow, so there are currently 5 classes studying in primary and secondary level out of a possible total of 16, so there are still many children at home. There are plans for all but pre-primary (3 classes) to rejoin school between now and June, so that the academic year 2020 concludes by the end of July 2021. What will happen next, no one is sure of; but the hope is that as much of 3 terms of 2021 as possible shall be packed into August to December (as the academic year usually runs from January to December).

The great thing about school reopening is that Abaana staff can once again easily meet with sponsored children, which has been much more challenging when they have been at home; at Christmas, we were blessed to be able to give each child and their family a big package of goodies (basic and special foods, a sweater, a watch, soap, and masks), but mobilising the children to come to gather in one place to receive the items was quite difficult, while maintaining social distancing. We still plan to give out learning materials to all children who won’t be going back to school for some months (some won’t return until June – meaning they will have been out of school for 14 months in total!) and this will be much easier as schools will be open for the few classes who are allowed to study. Since 2021 began, it has also been possible to place some older children in vocational training and apprenticeships, which is of great value for teenagers who have missed out on early years’ education and struggle academically. As such, we have been able to identify places such as garages and tailoring shops for some older teens to get practical training in a skill which will enable them to self-sufficient in a short time. At the New Life Homes, children are generally doing fine, and also enjoying the opportunity to go back to school, and we are also very happy to report that one of our pioneer boys successfully completed his bachelor’s degree recently, and is set to graduate early this year. Although we are very glad that children are returning, the phased manner has caused some complexities in our budgeting, with around 1500 children reporting back to school at various times over the next 3 months which has been an interesting exercise in excel to ensure we have a good cashflow in places to pay the fees at the right time!

Continued on next page.

From Gill and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda

[Continued from previous page]

All in all, we are grateful for how 2021 has started with regarding the education outlook, and trust that all will go well.

Aside from the regular school support, we also have the privilege of giving out ‘special gifts’ to children whose sponsors donate a one-off amount for a present for the family. Charles is one sponsored boy who has been receiving special gifts almost every quarter and he is so grateful to the sponsor. When another was given in December, he felt he should pass over the gift to benefit his sister (Prossy). She had finished Primary 7 but then sadly dropped out of school because of school fees, and shortly after, became pregnant and a single teenage mother, with basic education and few prospects, living with her mother who also did not have a steady source of income. Charles decided he wanted to use the money to start something to keep Prossy busy as well as to make some income for the family, and so they got a house/shop to rent and bought some clothes for sale. The little business is going well, and we pray that the family will be able to stabilize a bit as Charles continues along his education path, being blessed to have a sponsor that has enabled him to stay in school. For us at home, Carlos’ work has been slow, but he has been keeping busy as possible, and there are a few new opportunities lining up, which we hope will bear fruit, as tourism is still taking a while to recover. For the boys, we made a decision to get a tutor for Josiah and Judah, who started on 4th January, and ‘Teacher Josephine’ has been doing a fantastic job 4 mornings a week going through the curriculum with them, and we have been blessed to have been able to transform an office into a schoolroom for this purpose.

We are also delighted that the work on getting Mum and Dad’s house ready has progressed really well, and we are so thankful that the ‘Go Fund Me’ appeal reached its target of 60,000 euro this week! Amazing! It is hopeful that she will return home in ‘Lily’, her wheelchair, by mid-March, and we are now in confident prayer that all will go well in the next stage of this transition home.

We hope that this short update has been encouraging, and thank you as always for your prayers and interest.

Love,

Gill, Carlos, Josiah and Judah

Please pray:

- For continued wisdom for us in managing the balance between work and home, with gratitude for God’s on-going provision.
- For Mum and Dad as she should go back home this month.
- For the vaccination process in Uganda, as it will hopefully start soon, and we pray all to go well.

Continued on next page.

From Gill and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda

[Continued from previous page]



Jojo and Judah in class



Katantazi Charles

Continued on next page.

From Gill and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda

[Continued from previous page]



Brenda, learning to be a tailor



Christmas gift



Students finally back at school

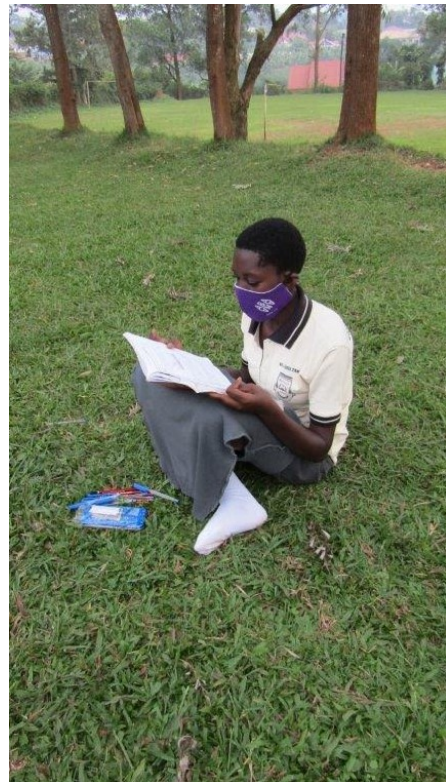
Continued on next page.

From Gill and Carlos Olaaka in Uganda

[Continued from previous page]



Pre-primary child with learning materials



Reading with mask at school

[Photos in this article: Gill Olaaka]

Our Mission Contacts

Bishop of Yei —Yei, South Sudan:

yei.anglican.org

Gillian and Carlos Olaaka—Uganda:

gillolaaka@yahoo.co.uk

Rev. Ken Gibson—Mission to End Leprosy:

ken@kengibson.ie



SUMMER GARDENING WORKSHOP

with Suzanne O' Neil will answer all your gardening questions

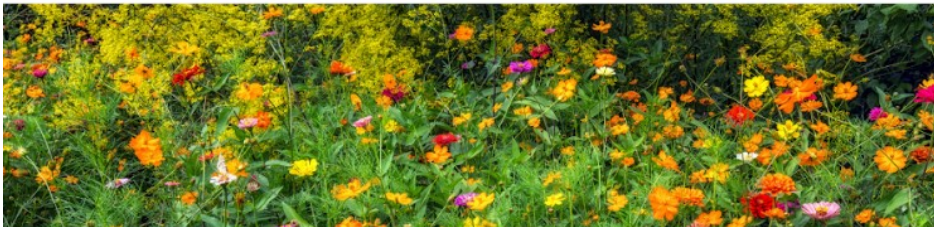
Learn how to create and maintain the perfect hanging basket that will give you colour throughout the summer using flowers suitable for sun or shade

What summer bedding to chose and when to plant

Flower and vegetable seeds that can be sown in early summer

Starts: Tuesday, 13th April Where: Zoom Time: 11 am

For more information or to book a place contact **Angie Lennon**
087 109 0106 angela.lennon@sspship.ie



SUMMER GARDENING WORKSHOP

with Suzanne O' Neil will answer all your gardening questions

Learn how to create and maintain the perfect hanging basket that will give you colour throughout the summer using flowers suitable for sun or shade

What summer bedding to chose and when to plant

Flower and vegetable seeds that can be sown in early summer

Starts: Tuesday, 27th April Where: Zoom Time: 11 am

For more information or to book a place contact **Angie Lennon**
087 109 0106 angela.lennon@sspship.ie



What more could I have done for you?

A man can show no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Lord Jesus, You were betrayed by Judas,
Deserted by the other apostles,
Distressed at the thought of crucifixion,
Arrested by Roman soldiers and Jewish guards,
Questioned by the High Priest, Caiaphas,
Denounced by false evidence,
Accused of blasphemy,
Rejected by jealous priests and elders,
Spat upon, blindfolded, hit and hurt,
Imprisoned in a dungeon, without food or drink,
Denied and disowned by Peter,
Wounded by people who cried "Crucify Him",
Condemned to death by Pontius Pilate,
Traumatized by torture and ridicule,
Flogged, mocked and crowned with thorns,
Led like a lamb to the slaughter,
Stripped naked and nailed to a cross,
Despised and rejected by the chief priests,
Taunted by two criminals,
Dehydrated as blood flowed from Your wounds,
Pierced with a lance,
You even felt abandoned by God Your Father,
Yet, You prayed
"Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing."

Bruised and broken hearted, You offered Yourself as an eternal sacrifice to the Father through the power of the Spirit.

Merciful Jesus, may we never treat another person in any of the degraded ways You were treated, but always respect others as we would like to be treated ourselves.





FOXROCK LOCAL HISTORY CLUB

Our next April public meetings are via
ZOOM on

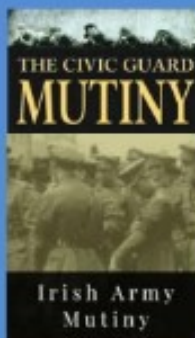
TUESDAY 13TH (1) AND TUESDAY 20TH (2) APRIL 2021
AT 8.00 P.M. SHARP

MAIN TALK (1) POWER TO THE PEOPLE - From Ardnacrusha to Deansgrange. *By Michael Hughes (ON THE 13TH)*



From Ardnacrusha to Deansgrange in October 1929, when much of the nation's focus was on the first ESB Station to deliver electrical energy to the people, from the Shannon Scheme. This event was a national landmark as it was the first suburban location to showcase the fruits of the biggest capital investment of the Irish Free State in the first decade of its existence. Michael Hughes will describe how a brilliant concept by a young Irish engineer of generate electrical energy from an Irish natural resource and to gradually supply a new source of energy in homes and workplaces nationwide. This resulted in a very brave decision in 1925 for the members of a young Dáil and brought many challenges to both Irish and German engineers and introduced many modern home comforts for the general public since then which is probably taken for granted, today.

MAIN TALK (2) MUTINIES IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY - *By Éanna De Búrca (on the 20th)*



Éanna De Búrca has given us talks in the past on his family's part in St. Enda's School in Rathfarnham, Frongoch prison of war camp in Wales after the 1916 Rising, and his father's part in Bloody Sunday in 1920. Éanna's April talk will be on the early mutinies at the turn of the 20th century in Ireland. Mutinies are defined in the Oxford English Dictionary as being "revolts against authority". Over the centuries there have been many revolts here but they were never alluded to as "mutinies". However, in the first quarter of the last century there were three "mutinies" but were not very well publicised as such and barely got mentioned in our history - one in particular. This Éanna would like to highlight but will be making reference to the other two and perhaps, at a later date, Éanna may be able to give a more detailed account of the third mutiny.

INVITE FOR THESE ZOOM MEETING: Members will receive an e-mail with the invite password.

Non-Members, please send an email to: info@foxrocklocalhistory.ie for a password to this meeting.

Disestablishment of the church of Ireland and an post



1st January 2021 marks the 150th anniversary of the Disestablishment of the Church of Ireland, resulting in the dissolving of the union between Church and State in Ireland.

Once it received Royal assent on 26th July 1869 the Irish Church Act came into being and the Church of Ireland was detached from the Church of England (with which it had been united by the Act of Union of 1800).

To mark the 150th anniversary of Disestablishment, An Post issued a commemorative stamp on 7th January 2021.

The stamp design is based on the sun, moon and stars panel from 'The Creation Wheel Window' in the Cathedral of St. Fin Barre in Cork, by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral.

The stamp is currently available at the normal price for postage throughout the island of Ireland (currently €1.)

If your local post office doesn't have it in stock, it can be purchased from the An Post website (anpost.com/shop) or by 'phone at (01) 705 7400.

CHURCH REVIEW AND CHURCH OF IRELAND GAZETTE

The *Church Review* and *Church of Ireland Gazette* will be available to collect on the first Thursday of the month when the Church is open for private prayer. If you are unable to collect, the office team will ensure you receive delivery of your magazine.

VOX

If you wish to receive VOX magazine during 2021, please contact VOX directly. Their website is www.vox.ie

PARISH NEWSLETTER:

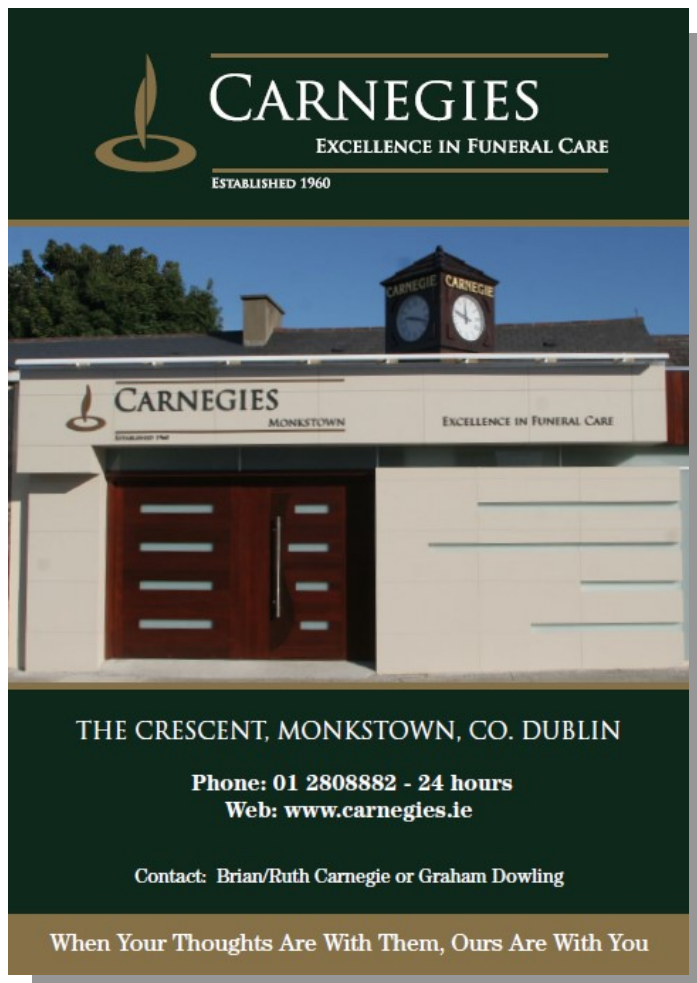
THE NEXT ISSUE— JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2021—WILL BE PUBLISHED IN JULY.

FOR THIS, CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE SENT

NOT LATER THAN 15th JUNE 2021

TO JAMES DARLING BY E-MAIL:

nletter@kotg.ie



CARNEGIES
EXCELLENCE IN FUNERAL CARE
ESTABLISHED 1960

CARNEGIES
MONKSTOWN
EXCELLENCE IN FUNERAL CARE

THE CRESCENT, MONKSTOWN, CO. DUBLIN

Phone: 01 2808882 - 24 hours
Web: www.carnegies.ie

Contact: Brian/Ruth Carnegie or Graham Dowling

When Your Thoughts Are With Them, Ours Are With You

Church Activities

	Contact / E-mail:
Choir:	<i>Vacant</i>
Church Flowers:	<i>Vacant</i>
Church Music Group:	Diane Faulkner
Growing Groups: <i>(Fortnightly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays, usually 2nd & 4th weeks of month)</i>	Parish Office
Parish Visiting:	The Rev. Alan Breen / Bert Van Embden
Prayer Chain: <i>(Home based)</i>	Blanche Cooper
Prayer Meeting: <i>(Every Tuesday at 7.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre Den upstairs.)</i>	Parish Office
Young at Hearts: <i>(1st Friday of each month)</i>	Rosemary Knight
YOUTH GROUPS:	
Girls' Brigade: (Age 3 – 18) <i>Tuesdays, 3.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. (Sept./April)</i>	Clare O'Kennedy (Captain)
CORE Youth: (1 st – 6 th year) <i>Saturdays, 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.</i>	Jonathan Byford
Maxpack: (5 th & 6 th class) <i>Every 2nd Friday, 7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.</i>	Seb Dungan
Shake, Rattle + Hum: (pre-school) <i>Wednesdays. 9.15 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.</i>	<i>Suspended</i>
Crèche (0 – 3 years old): <i>At 10.30 a.m. Sunday service</i>	Seb Dungan
Sunday Club: (Age 4—3 rd year secondary school) <i>At 10.30 a.m. Sunday service</i>	Karl and Cathryn Schäckermann
GAMES & SPORTING:	
Parish Bowling Club: <i>Monday/Thursday, 7.15 p.m. – 9.15 p.m. (September/May)</i>	Ruth Mann
Clonkeen Bowling Club: <i>Tuesdays. 8.30 p.m. – 10.30 p.m. (September/May)</i>	Grainne Fitzgerald

Please contact the Parish Office (office@kotg.ie) if you would like to get in touch with anyone listed above or on the following page.

KILL O'THE GRANGE PARISH DIRECTORY

E-mail

Rector:	The Rev. Alan Breen	rector@kotg.ie
Curate:	<i>Vacant</i>	
Lay Readers:	Blair Halliday David Williams	
Lay Reader & Pastoral Worker:	Bert Van Embden	lpw@kotg.ie
Youth Pastor	Jonathan Byford	youth@kotg.ie
Children's and Family Worker	Seb Dungan	children@kotg.ie
Stewardship Recorder:	Mark Groves	steward@kotg.ie
Rector's Churchwarden:	John Riseley	
People's Churchwarden:	Aideen LaCombre	
Rector's Glebewarden:	Bruce Johnson	
People's Glebewarden:	Mark Faulkner	
Hon. Secretary, Select Vestry:	Keith Syms	
Hon. Treasurer:	Tim Roulston	treasurer@kotg.ie
Church Administrators:	Jane Winning and Caroline Plascott	office@kotg.ie
<i>Church Review:</i>	Parish Office	office@kotg.ie
<i>Church of Ireland Gazette:</i>	Parish Office	office@kotg.ie
Organist:	<i>Vacant</i>	
School Principal:	Hilary McBain	
Parish Centre (bookings):	Olive Combe	
Parish Centre Committee:	Olive Combe Sandra Faulkner Peter Rooke	
Administrator-Repairs & Maintenance:	Derek Scott	
Parish Safety Officer:	Brian Lambert	
<i>Safeguarding Trust Panel:</i>	The Rev. Alan Breen Aideen LaCombre (Tel.: 087 222 1275) Michael Lynn (Tel.: 285 6006)	rector@kotg.ie
<i>Parish Newsletter:</i>		
Editor:	James Darling	nletter@kotg.ie
Distribution:	Parish Office	office@kotg.ie

Parish Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Parish Address: Kill O'The Grange Parish Church, The Parish Office,
Kill Lane, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. A94 FC80

Tel.: (01) 289 6442

E-mail: office@kotg.ie

Website: www.kotg.ie

COMMUNITY SUPPORT INITIATIVES ON CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

Please see below some useful information regarding COVID-19 support initiatives that have been set up by various community groups. The Church also has a team of people who are willing and ready to help if you need assistance in any way. Please do contact us at office@kotg.ie or rector@kotg.ie.

Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown (DLR) Community Support Forum and Helpline

DLR have set up a new dedicated helpline focussed specifically on ensuring the cocooning elderly, vulnerable members of the community or those living alone can access deliveries such as groceries, medicine and fuels. **The DLR Community Call Helpline can be reached on (01) 271 3199 (Monday to Sunday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., 7 days a week).**

An Post

Special measures to help fight COVID-19 have been put in place by An Post for elderly, cocooning and vulnerable people who can't get to the post office to collect their pension or any other social welfare payment. You can now allow somebody else, known as a temporary agent, to collect it. The Temporary Agent form is available in all post offices, online and is also attached with this e-mail. ***We would highly recommend that a family member or trusted friend does this for you.*** In addition, post offices will hold all payments for up to 90 days if your nominated Temporary Agent is not available on your normal pension collecting day, and the timing of payments is now every two weeks. For further information, please see gov.ie/welfare.

SeniorLine

SeniorLine provides a National Helpline, where people will receive the most up to date guidance on COVID-19 as recommended by Government sources. Good health practice is reinforced at all times. This information is updated daily as the situation changes and is available to each of our volunteers at the phones. SeniorLine is a FREEPHONE service and is available between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. every day of the year on 1800 804591.

Website: www.thirdageireland.ie.