

## Fake news can pop up anywhere

Michael Commane

CNN's Jim Acosta was interviewed by Ryan Tubridy on his Wednesday morning programme.

Jim came to fame the time his White House accreditation was withdrawn from him.

Ryan Tubridy was talking to him about his experience during the Trump era and inevitably fake news came up for discussion. Acosta had no difficulty giving chapter and verse on some of the lies that he has heard from Trump.

His book 'The Enemy of the People: A Dangerous Time to Tell the Truth in America' was published this year.

But there are many who belittle and ridicule him and consider him a poor journalist. Tune in sometime to the far-right US Patriot Radio and you will get an earful of what they think of Jim.

Fake news is not the exclusive property of the current President of the United States.

So much of how we see and interpret reality is done through the prism of our own subjective thinking and belief systems. That's why democracy is such a nuanced system and always needs to be treated with great care and respect.

We always have to keep a sharp eye out on what we read and hear.

It's easy to come to the table with an agenda.

And that's how I felt having read the lead story in 'The Irish Catholic' of September 5. The headline ran: "Call for parishes to dump 'distracting' Mass leaflets".

Reading through it I certainly got the impression it was not an accurate news story. Far more opinion than fact.

One of the arguments the writer of the story gave was that church bulletins restrict the priest in the Sunday liturgy.

There are various Mass leaflets that offer parishes a multitude of possibilities.

At the end of the piece there was short quote from one missalette publisher in support of the parish bulletin. Why just a quote from one publisher as there are many parish bulletin publishers?

Not a single quote or opinion from a person in the pew.

The story was a personal opinion dressed up as a news story and that's never acceptable and is poor journalism.

The Irish church needs robust journalism, a journalism that is impartial and unbiased.

## Collections 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Offertory Collection: € 1, 358

Share Collection: €662

Thank you for your support for these collections, and for your contributions to the Parish Fund each month.

**St Vincent de Paul** Annual Clothing appeal takes place this year on the 22nd September 2018; bags will be available at the church today Sunday 15th September, and will then be collected on the 22nd September. Thank you for your continuing generosity with this appeal.

**Christian Meditation** takes place every Thursday morning after 10.00am Mass in St. Brigid's Room. Meditation is the quiet prayer of faith, silence, stillness and simplicity handed on to us by the Benedictine Monk, John Main O.S.B. All are welcome.

### *Fr Joe's Farewell*

A Mass of Thanksgiving  
will be celebrated

on

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019  
at 5.30pm

*for all Parishioners, Adults and Children.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Mass will be followed by a  
Celebration in  
Milltown Golf Club.

Tickets for Milltown will be available  
from

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019  
after all Masses and in the Parish Office  
Price €25.00.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Parish Pastoral Council, on behalf of the parishioners, will make a presentation to Fr Joe at the Mass of Thanksgiving, and if you would like to contribute to this presentation, Gift Envelopes are available at the back of the Church, into which you can place your donation, and put it in the safe.

\*\*\*\*\*

A book of photos, messages, and good wishes from parishioners, will be created for Fr Joe, and cards for this will be distributed after all Masses, and also will be available in the Parish Office. These cards can then be completed and left in the safe.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Rathgar Active Retirement Association** is a friendly and welcoming group of active retired people. We meet every Tuesday and Friday at 2.30pm for: table tennis; scrabble; cards; and indoor bowls. Outings to the theatre and other interesting venues; and twice-yearly holidays, are also on our agenda. For further information, contact Phyllis at 01 4909167.