

**A few words from the former Parish Priest.....**I once worked with a man called Frank, when anyone said “Thank you, Frank,” he always replied, “Thank you for your thank you!” This is my moment to imitate him and say to the people of Rathgar, thank you for your thank you. Last Saturday evening many people gathered to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for the 9 years that I had been Parish Priest of The Three Patrons. In the course of the evening we celebrated the liturgy with tremendous energy, drew together the talent of all those who prepare, sing, serve, read, minister and pray the Mass and it was a really memorable experience. For me it was beautiful to see the parish gathering and celebrating together, and sharing time with each other. It felt great. There was amazing affirmation for me personally and a huge sense of community, faith and love. The Mass carried on into a celebration at Milltown Golf Club and again a room packed to capacity held parishioners and friends in joyful celebration. Kind words were spoken by the Chair of the Parish Council and the Finance Committee and a very generous, far too generous, gift was presented. I thank them for their kind words and all who contributed to the gift. 9 years is a long time and yet it seems to have passed so quickly in Rathgar. I think that is a sign of being happy, busy and supported. It was a privilege to be your Parish Priest, it was a joy to serve your needs and it is much harder than I could have imagined to pack up and move on. I wish Fr Paul Taylor well for his time among you and I will always enjoy visiting the parish from time to time. So once again, Thank You.

**Care for the Earth**

In the Judaeo-Christian tradition, the word ‘creation’ has a broader meaning than ‘nature’, for it has to do with God’s loving plan in which every creature has its own value and significance. Nature is usually seen as a system which can be studied. understood as a gift from the outstretched hand of the Father of us all, and a reality illuminated by the love which calls us together into universal communion [...]

If we acknowledge the value and fragility of nature and, at the same time, our God-given abilities, we can finally leave behind the modern myth of unlimited material progress. A fragile world, entrusted by God to human care, challenges us to devise intelligent ways of directing, developing and limiting our power.

*Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 76,78*

**Do This in Memory** The first Do this in Memory Mass will be celebrated next Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October at the 10.30am Family Mass. All First Communion candidates should attend at 10.15am in order to enrol and to gather for the opening procession.

**Collections 22nd September 2019**

Offertory Collection: € 1,136  
Share Collection: € 797

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

**Christian Meditation** takes place every Thursday morning after 10.00am Mass in the Church. 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.

**Divine Mercy Devotions** will take place this First Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm to include Mass, Benediction, Chaplet, and Blessing with the Relic of St Faustina. Devotions will be followed by vigil.

**Pax Christi Outdoor Collection** Thank you to all who contributed so generously to this collection and €715.00 was raised.

**St Vincent de Paul Clothing Appeal.** Thank you to all for such an outstanding response to last week’s appeal. This collection contributes enormously to the work of the Society.

**Our Lady’s Hospice Coffee Morning.** Thank you very much to all who so generously supported the coffee morning at Bridget Murphy’s house. The amazing amount of €1,550 was raised on the day.

**Dublin County Choir** will perform Haydn’s Creation conducted by Colin Block at Whitefriar Street Church, Aungier Street, on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm. Tickets €20 at the door.

**Sacristan for 6.15pm Mass** We urgently need a volunteer to prepare the Church and help at the Sunday evening 6.15pm Mass. Training will be given. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office at 01 4972215.

**Parish Attendance Survey**

The Annual Mass Attendance Survey takes place in October.

This year the survey of Sunday Mass attendance will take place on:

**Sundays 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> October** during all Masses

**Sr Maura Hennessy.** We were all very surprised and upset to hear last Sunday that Sr Maura was leaving us for pastures new in Carrick-on-Shannon, after nine years as Parish Sister in Rathgar. Sr Maura tirelessly undertook her duties in visiting the sick and elderly of the parish, and leading the Thursday Meditation Group, and her warm smile and generosity were always a welcome presence. Fr Paul Taylor, PP and all in the parish wish her well in her new life, and we will remember her in our prayers, as we know she will us.