

# The Church of the Three Patrons, Rathgar Parish Newsletter

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020

**Parish Priest :** Fr Paul Taylor Ph:4971058  
**Parish Chaplain:** Fr Michael Commane,OP  
**Parish Administrator:** Caroline Nolan  
**Pastoral Assistant:** Cepta Lyons  
**Parish Pastoral Worker:** Jackie Hearne

**Parish Office Opening Hours:**  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:30am – 12.30pm  
Sunday: 10.30am – 12.30pm  
**Phone:** 01 4972215

**Website:** [www.rathgarparish.ie](http://www.rathgarparish.ie).

**Radio Link:** P.B. Band 145 - 155



**The Diocesan Child Safeguarding Policy** is published on all notice boards in the Church and the Parish Centre, and copies of the document are available to read in the Parish Office and the Parish Centre. For further information please see [www.csp.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.csp.dublindiocese.ie)

## Words of Pope Francis

“It is a matter of abandoning the heavy burden of our worldly sureties that prevent us from searching and building up the kingdom: The covetousness for possession, the thirst for profit and power, and thinking only of ourselves”.

26<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## Three Patrons

Sunday: 10.30am; 12 noon; **5.30pm.**  
**Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday:** 10.00am  
**Tuesday, Thursday:** 5.30pm

## Beechwood Parish

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm  
Sunday (as Gaeilge) 9.00am; **10.45am.**  
Tuesday, Thursday: 10.00am.

**We encourage everyone who visits the church to wear a face covering, and to practice hand sanitising, and social distancing, in order to protect everyone's health.**

Welcome back to everyone as we all rejoice in the return of our public Masses. On Sundays, our stewards will be on hand to help at the entrance, and to ensure as smooth a movement as possible before, during, and after Mass.

- We will enter the church by the centre (glass) doors, and exit by the side (wooden) doors.
- Hand sanitisers will be placed by the centre aisle.
- A one-way system will mean everybody moves up the church by the centre aisle and down by the side aisles.
- The markings on each pew will show seating positions which maintain the 2m distance.
- Holy Communion will be distributed row-by-row from the front and from the crossover point; the stewards will be there to assist
- There will be no collection baskets, but instead there will be boxes at the rear of the church after Mass: (red) for the support of the priests of the diocese; and (blue) for the upkeep of the church.
- Toilet facilities will, unfortunately, not be available for the moment.
- When we reach our capacity, we will close the church doors, and place a notice outside.

At weekday Masses, we encourage everyone to wear a face covering, to observe social distancing at all times, and to occupy only the marked spaces in the pews.

We hope these plans will help us to renew our relationship with our parish and with each other, and ensure that we all continue to stay safe and well.

Fr Paul Taylor,PP and The Parish Pastoral Council

## The magic of the newly-picked spud

Michael Commane

One of the highlights of my childhood was holidaying on my granduncle's farm on the Tipperary/Kilkenny border. I remember the new potatoes we picked in the field.

On being discharged from hospital in Tralee in early July I headed home to West Kerry where I doused myself in self-sympathy.

Part of that dousing involved indulging in the pleasure of eating new potatoes.

Friends supplied me with new potatoes. If they didn't deliver them to my door, I was eating them at their table.

The newly picked-from-the-field Irish spud has to be up there with the best of food anywhere in the world.

One evening everything on the plate was local: the fish, the spuds, the carrots, onions and beetroot.

I'm only an alright cook, indeed really know nothing about the culinary art but I have learned how important it is to snatch the new Irish spud from the pot before it's over-boiled. A few seconds can make such a difference. It needs to be snatched from the pot while it still puts up a tiny resistance to the penetrating fork. The new Irish spud can be lost forever in the twinkling of an eye. That's why it's essential to watch those boiling spuds like a hawk.

But there's so much mystery surrounding the new Irish spud. Yes, I have eaten tasty new potatoes in Dublin but they are never a patch on the spuds I have eaten in Tipperary or Kerry. Then again they are the places where I have spent great holidays, lived wild times, swam in the sea, whether in sunshine or rain. Is the new Irish spud in some way or other wrapped up for me in the psychology of being on holiday, doing nothing, lazing about, relaxing over a long breakfast? No, there is an intrinsic objective reality about the taste of a new Irish spud, and I defy anyone to tell me otherwise.

I'm thinking of Patrick Kavanagh's lines in *Spraying the Potatoes*: "He turned my way. 'God further the work'./He echoed an ancient farming prayer/I thanked him. He eyed the potato drills./He said: 'you are bound to have good ones there.'"

It's a strange one; how we miss the magic and beauty in the simplest of things. And that happens too with our relationship with God. We can find God right in front of our eyes.

Give me the new Irish spud any day before an exotic holiday in Timbuktu.



## Collections 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**First Collection: €570**

**Second Collection: €320**

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

### Problems with Parish Office phones and email.

Apologies to all who have been unable to contact the parish office during the last week; our phone line was accidentally cut by local builders, and we are in the process of changing the email address, but experiencing problems doing so.

We welcome  
**Nora Jo Scannell**, and  
**Max Fitzsimons**,

who were baptised in Three Patrons  
on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

May their parents and  
families find joy in the love,  
growth, and holiness of their  
children



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

**Gianna Care** provides compassionate, life-affirming, and confidential care during pregnancy. If you would like further information, please see notices at the back of the Church or call 086 0293727

**Radio Maria Ireland** is now available via TV on the Saorview Channel 210. Join the growing listenership family for daily Mass, prayer, lively chat, music, testimonies, youth programmes and events.

**New for September 2020: Part-time Higher Diploma in Theological Studies via Blended Learning** This one year, part-time Higher Diploma in Theological Studies at St Patrick's College, Maynooth is now offered as a "Blended Learning" programme. Suitable for those with an undergraduate degree (or equivalent), in any discipline the course will run from September to May, with online lectures taking place on Wednesday evenings. Closing date: 14th August. For more information, please contact Barbara Mahon, at [admissions@spcm.ie](mailto:admissions@spcm.ie) or 017084772

**Donate:** Thank you for all your contributions to date. Your generosity to the parish and to the clergy is very much appreciated. If you would like to continue to contribute to the 1st collection and Share collection in this manner rather than bringing money to Mass, they can be set up as recurring payments on the website. If you are having any difficulty with Easy Pay please click on the refresh button. Otherwise please contact the office and we will assist you. Contactless payments are a convenient and safe method of donation during this time.