



Collections 27th March 2022

1st Collection : Common Fund €530

Your contribution and generosity is much appreciated in support of the humanitarian efforts in Ukraine. The total proceeds from last weeks collection amounted to €2100.00 If you would still like to donate please place an envelope marked Ukraine in the safe at the back of the Church

Fr Andrew O'Sullivan, Parish Priest
Parish Chaplain Fr David Larkin
Parish Office Manager : Caroline Nolan
Parish office opening hours:
Monday to Friday 10.00am to 1.00pm
The office can be contacted Monday to Friday on Telephone (01) 4972215
Email parishoffice@rathgarparish.ie
Website www.rathgarparish.ie
<https://www.churchservices.tv/rathgar>

Confessions will be held immediately after 10am mass on Sturday mornings,..



Rathgar Ladies Club will have a flower demonstration for Easter on the 7th of April at 7.30pm in St Patrick's Hall.

We are delighted to announce the return of our Monday morning tea and coffee/chat after 10am mass



Rathmines & Rathgar Bethany Bereavement Support Service

We are delighted to resume our monthly listening sessions for those of you who have suffered a bereavement or other significant loss. Our service is confidential, non-judgmental and open to all who need to speak in a supportive setting. Our trained listeners are here to help.

Our April meetings will take place in:

Rathmines Parish Centre (to the left of the church entrance – please use intercom)

On: Wednesday, 6 April at 8.00 p.m.

Rathgar, St Patrick's Hall, access via rear of church (Leicester Avenue)



Rathmines & Rathgar Parishes are pleased to be joining the annual Dublin Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday the 23rd of April. A bus will be leaving from Rathmines Church at 0730am and returning at 2000pm. A pilgrimage programme is being co-ordinated by the Archdiocese and concludes with Mass in the Basilica at 3pm celebrated by Archbishop Farrell. If you wish to register for the pilgrimage please email Rathmines Parish Office on secretary@rathminesparish.com or Rathgar Parish Office at parishoffice@rathgarparish.ie. There will

HOMILY

Fond as we may be of the image of God as the sternly just punisher of sinners, that is not the picture God draws of himself. Rather, God's self-portrait is one of unconditional, compassionate forgiveness offered to anyone, anytime, a truly limitless mercy.

But there is in this consoling image a real challenge, a challenge to the heart of our vocation as Christians. God's table will be filled not only by those who have been forgiven, those who have been shown kindness, but by those who have themselves offered forgiveness, those who have lived kindness. The Father's mercy is given not only to save us but to teach us as well. The two are the same, really. We cannot hope to benefit from the one if we are unwilling to follow the other.

Forgiveness is first of all an attitude formed by a couple of pretty basic facts of our faith. God created human beings. He created them as he wanted them to be – good, with a goodness far, far beyond our own ability to perceive. And if we truly realised that, truly believed it, it would become almost automatically impossible for us to condemn anyone. So, the first building block in an attitude of forgiveness is a simple one: condemn no-one ever, anytime.

I don't say that we must not judge. I say we must not condemn. Indeed, we are called to make moral judgements.

If an act is wrong, it must be named as such by Christians, and unmistakably so. The point is we must make such judgements about acts, not people. Christ said to the woman, "What you have done is evil." He did not say, "You are evil." And in that, the distinction between Christ and the pharisees is perhaps as clear as anywhere in Scripture. Christ wanted to put an end to the act. The pharisees wanted to put an end to the woman. The pharisees saw the person and the sin as one and the same. Christ saw the person as so much more than the sin. Instead of condemning her for what she was, he encouraged her to become something more, to centre her life around what could and should be.

And so, the second principle that forms an attitude of forgiveness is also pretty simple. It is a persistent, patient hope – a readiness, a joyful eagerness to see realised in ourselves and in others all of the goodness of which we are capable.

Like any virtue, forgiveness is an act that flows from a right attitude. If we are to practice forgiveness, we must first do something – almost anything, really – a letter, a phone call, a handshake, a friendly smile, anything that will help us begin to act as though the offence had never occurred. That is the heart of it, to act toward those who have offended us as though they had not.

Fr Andrew

Local News

We would be very happy to include local news in our weekly Newsletter please email items of interest to parishoffice@rathgarparish.ie by Wednesday of each week.



Confirmation will take place in the Church of the Three Patrons on the 9th of April at 11am.