

**Christmas Newsletter for the Grouped Parishes of
Swords, Clonmethan, and Kilsallaghan, with Donabate
and Lusk.**

Confirmation 2023

Confirmation classes will commence Thursday 2nd March at 7pm 2023 in the Parish Room (Top room in the Parish Halls in Swords). They will run for 5 weeks and will be every Thursday during March.

Those wishing to be Confirmed will be expected to attend Church Services at least once a month till next May. If you have sporting commitments on a Sunday morning, you can attend the family Praise n' Pizza evenings, which are once a month at 6.30pm in the School Hall. Next one is the 22nd of January, hot food served afterwards. Alternatively, you can attend Sunday Club in Donabate at (10am) or in Swords (11.30am) on the 1st Sunday of the month or the Family Service in Swords at 11.30 am or Donabate Family Service at 10am, both are on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Please email the Rector if you would like to put your child forward for Confirmation 2023. Email address: nealphair@hotmail.com

Diocesan Service for Primary & Junior Schools

The annual Diocesan Service for Primary and Junior Schools took place in Christ Church Cathedral on Thursday the 20th of October. Many thanks to Daniel O'Connor, Evan and Christopher Siung and Alex Hughes who represented the Old Borough School, Swords at the service.



Dublin Airport Remembrance

A special Remembrance service was held at Dublin Airport on Monday the 7th of November to remember all those who have died over the last year who work at Dublin Airport e.g. pilots, engineers etc. This service is organised by the Retired Aviation Committee. The Rector and Fr. Des Doyle led the service and the deceased members were read out, which included our friend and colleague Mrs Addy Patterson, who passed away recently. Refreshments were held afterwards in the Banqueting Hall, Alsa.

Senior Citizens Remembrance, Swords

A Remembrance service was also held in Swords Senior Citizens Centre, Swords, to remember all those who passed away over the past year. Fr John Collins, Fr Richard Sheehy and the Rector led the service. Thanks to Swords parishioner Mrs Patricia Stephenson, who helped organise the event. Refreshments were held afterwards in the centre.

St Mary's Clonmethan Remembrance

On Saturday the 12th of November at 11am, a special Remembrance event took place in St Mary's churchyard, Clonmethan. A number of public representatives were in attendance - Minister Darragh O'Brien, The Mayor of Fingal, Howard Mahony, Deputy Mayor Councillor Cathal Boland and Councillor Brian Dennany. Deputy O'Brien and Mayor Mahony both laid wreaths at the war memorial in the graveyard to those who lost their lives in WW1 and WW2, and indeed those who lost their lives in conflicts since. Minister O'Brien gave a speech about the importance of the Annual Remembrance to remember those Irish men and women who fought in the Great Wars of the last Century. The Mayor of Fingal endorsed these comments and stated that his own Father served in the RAF during WW2 and a couple of his Great Uncles and other relatives had served in WW1. The Rector led the prayers, and the last post was played and there was a time of silence. The Royal Dublin Fusiliers Banner was flown at the event. Thank you to everyone who organised this event especially Select Vestry member Andy Anderson and also his wife Collette and son David. Special Remembrance Services were also held in Donabate and Swords the following day, Sunday the 13th of November.





Family Bingo Night

The parish of Swords, Kilsallaghan and Clonmethan held their Bingo Night on Saturday the 26th of November at 7pm in the parish hall. It was a great evening of fun and fellowship which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. A raffle for the many spot prizes also took place along and there was also a tuck shop and glasses of wine were also available. Many thanks to everyone who came along to support this fundraising parish event and thanks to everyone who helped out in any way and those who brought along items for refreshments and for the spot prizes etc. It is hoped to have a Parish Quiz Night in February.













Praise 'n Pizza

A *Praise & Pizza Family Service* took place on Sunday evening, the 27th of November at 6.30pm. This was held in Swords Parish Centre in the main hall (Old Borough School Hall) (across from St Columba's Church). A great crowd of young people with their parents attended and Stephen Vincent led the informal lively worship. With so many of our young people involved in sporting activities etc. on a Sunday morning, this is a great opportunity for families to come along to an evening service for a time of fellowship and worship and enjoy some delicious Pizza as well!! The next Praise 'n Pizza will take place on the 22nd January at the usual time. *Prayers, Songs, Activities, Talk + Pizza* (+ hot dogs) is the format for the evening. For further details contact Stephen Vincent

or Gillian Haynes at gillian.haynes@gmail.com or the Rector at nealphair@hotmail.com

Donabate Christmas Concert

St Patrick's Church, Donabate, Christmas Concert will take place on Saturday the 10th of December 8pm with refreshments afterwards. Tickets are 20 euros each. The brilliant singer David Scott and Friends will sing a number of Christmas Carols and Festive songs on the evening. Please come along and support this important fundraising activity for Donabate Parish.

Community Carol Services

All the community carol services across this group of parishes will take place this year, which were more limited during the pandemic. Kilsallaghan Carol service will take place on the 11th December at 3pm. Minister Darragh O'Brien will be in attendance and will read a lesson and there will be refreshments afterwards. Donabate Carol Service will take place on Sunday the 18th of December at 10am. Swords Carol Service will be that afternoon at 4pm and refreshments will be held afterwards in St Columba's Parish Centre. If parishioners from St Columba's could bring along mince pies etc. for refreshments. Everyone very welcome to all our Carol Services!

Church Services for December & January

4th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Donabate	10am	Morning Prayer + Sunday Club
Swords	11.30am	Morning Prayer + Sunday Club

11th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Donabate	10am	Nativity Service
Swords	11.30am	Holy Communion
Kilsallaghan	3pm	Carol Service
Swords	5pm	Christingle Service

18th December – 4th Sunday of Advent

Donabate	10am	Carol Service
Swords	4pm	Carol Service

25th December – Christmas Day

Donabate	10am	Holy Communion
Swords	11.30am	Holy Communion
Kilsallaghan	1pm	Holy Communion

January

1st January – 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Donabate	10am	Morning Prayer
Swords	11.30am	Morning Prayer

8th January – Epiphany Sunday

Donabate	10am	Holy Communion
Swords	11.30am	Morning Prayer
Kilsallaghan	11.30am	Holy Communion

15th January – 2nd After Epiphany

Donabate	10am	Family Service
Swords	11.30am	Family Service

22nd January – 3rd After Epiphany

Donabate	10am	Holy Communion
Swords	11.30am	Holy Communion
Swords Hall	6.30pm	Praise & Pizza

29nd January – 4th After Epiphany

Donabate	10am	Morning Prayer
Swords	11.30am	Morning Prayer

Illness

We pray for Robert, Anne, Jean and Billy at this time and all others in the group of parishes who are ill at this time.

Wishing you all a very Merry
Christmas and a joyful and
peaceful New Year!

