Pastoral Visitation

If you have been unwell or in hospital please let the Rector know. In this diocese the hospital chaplain/s look after our pastoral needs when we are ill in hospital but if you would like a visit from the Rector in hospital, or on return home / to respite please do let me know or ask the chaplain to do so.

Please bear in mind that without a parishioner's permission chaplains are not at liberty to advise the Rector that a parishioner is in hospital.

Parish Records and Weekly 'Parish Happenings' e-mail

Please advise us of any address changes and we will update our records. If you do not wish to receive Templebreedy News please let the office know. If you would like to receive the weekly 'Parish Happenings' e-mail, please forward your e-mail address to the office. Thank you.

E-mail: office.templebreedy@cork.anglican.org Telephone: 021 4831236

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THE CHURCH OF IRELAND DIOCESE OF CORK



THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, CROSSHAVEN NOHOVAL PARISH CHURCH

Rector The Reverend Isobel Jackson Phone number 021 4831236 or 087 7435424

Parish Office 9.30am - 1.30pm Tuesday & Thursday

Parish Secretary Debbie Boyd Phone number 021 4831236

E-mail office.templebreedy@cork.anglican.org

Diocesan website www.cork.anglican.org

The Church of Ireland is a province of the Anglican communion of Churches

If you would like to be more involved in parish life or would appreciate a pastoral visit from the Rector or the Lay Pastoral Assistant, then please do let them know by contacting the Rectory or sending an email to the address above. If you should ever be ill or in hospital and would like a pastoral visit please do let the office or Rector know.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS: Nohoval 10.00 a.m. Crosshaven 8.30 a.m. & 11.30 a.m.

The next issue of **Templebreedy News** will be published in the summer. Any item that you like considered for inclusion can be sent to the Rectory before the end of June.

Thank you.

This newsletter is produced and delivered free of charge to your home as part of our parish ministry. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of providing this service it would be very much appreciated. Please contact Debbie at 4831236.

Templebreedy News

Parish newsletter for Holy Trinity Church, Crosshaven and Nohoval Parish Church



Issue 75

Spring 2023

From the Rector



Hello everybody!

Unlocking Your Legacy

The Tale of the Three Trees

Once upon a mountain top, three little trees stood and

dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up.

The first little tree looked up at the stars and said: "I want to hold treasure. I want to be covered with gold and filled with precious stones. I'll be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!"

The second little tree looked out at the small stream trickling by on its way to the ocean. "I want to be traveling mighty waters and carrying powerful kings. I'll be the strongest ship in the world!"

The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and women worked in a busy town. "I don't want to leave the mountain top at all. I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me, they'll raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world."

Years passed. The rain came, the sun shone, and the little trees grew tall. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain.

The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the first tree fell.

"Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest. I shall hold wonderful treasure!" the first tree said.

The second woodcutter looked at the second tree and said, "This tree is strong. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the second tree fell.

"Now I shall sail mighty waters!" thought the second tree.

"I shall be a strong ship for mighty kings!"

The third tree felt her heart sink when the last woodcutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to heaven.

But the woodcutter never even looked up. "Any kind of tree will do for me," he muttered. With a swoop of his shining axe, the third tree fell.

The first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought her to a carpenter's shop. But the carpenter fashioned the tree into a feed box for animals.

The once beautiful tree was not covered with gold, nor with treasure. She was coated with sawdust and filled with hay for hungry farm animals.

The second tree smiled when the woodcutter took her to a shipyard, but no mighty



All proceeds are going towards the Community Centre Crosshaven

Friday April 14th, 7.30pm at Templebreedy Church

Featuring: Roisin O'Grady Soprano Accompanist: Eoin O'Callghan Directed by: Dr. Eva McMullan



Page 23

Ticket price: €25

Safeguarding Trust and Parish Panel

What's it all about?

'Safe guarding trust' is the COI Code of good practice for ministry with children. The COI has to set standards for the welfare of all children sharing in its ministry with a view to protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

Each parish is expected to implement this code and train leaders and panel bers. All workers/helpers paid or voluntary are expected to know the code.

The code exists to safeguard children, young people and their leaders; it therefore has to be reasonable and practical.

Church of Ireland child protection policy statement:

It is the policy of the **Church of Ireland** to set standards for the **welfare of all children** sharing in its ministry with a view to **protecting** them from physical, sexual and emotional harm.

The purpose of the code of good practice

Thousands of children visit Church of Ireland premises for worship and for other social, educational and recreational purposes each week. The Church's ministry to them is a priority for the Church and it is only possible because of the commitment of adults who are prepared to work with children.

Safeguarding Trust: the Church of Ireland Code of Good Practice for Ministry with Children is designed to protect and to enhance that ministry.

Safeguarding Trust: the Church of Ireland Code of Good Practice for Ministry with Children is designed to enable all parties within the Church of Ireland to fulfil their proper responsibilities within this ministry:



to create a safe environment which will promote healthy and fulfilling participation of children and young people in educational and recreational activities and minimise the possibility of harm, either deliberate or accidental.



to encourage safe practices for those who work with children.



to set out the appropriate responses and procedures in the event of abuse taking place.



to safeguard those who work with children from the consequences of unfounded accusations.

The panel members are:







Mrs. Hazel Ross Tel: 021-4887364

Mrs. Dorothy Verplancke Tel: 021-4887247

Rev. Isobel Jackson Tel: 021-4831236

sailing ship was made that day. Instead, the once strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat. She was too small and too weak to sail on an ocean, or even a river; instead, she was taken to a little lake.

The third tree was confused when the woodcutter cut her into strong beams and left her in a lumberyard. "What happened?" the once tall tree wondered.

"All I ever wanted was to stay on the mountain top and point to God..."

Many, many days and night passed. The three trees nearly forgot their dreams.

But one night, golden starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman placed her newborn baby in the feed box.

"I wish I could make a cradle for him," her husband whispered.

The mother squeezed his hand and smiled as the starlight shone on the smooth and the sturdy wood. "This manger is beautiful," she said. And suddenly the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world.

One evening a tired traveller and his friends crowded into the old fishing boat. The traveller fell asleep as the second tree quietly sailed out into the lake.

Soon a thundering and thrashing storm arose. The little tree shuddered. She knew she did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through with the wind and the rain.

The tired man awakened. He stood up, stretched out his hand,

and said, "Peace." The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun.

And suddenly the second tree knew he was carrying the king of heaven and earth.

One Friday morning, the third tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the forgotten woodpile. She flinched as she was carried through an angry jeering crowd. She shuddered when soldiers nailed a man's hands to her. She felt ugly and harsh and cruel.

But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth tremble with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything.

It had made the third tree strong.

And every time people thought of the third tree, they would think of God.

That was better than being the tallest tree in the world.

God always has even bigger plans for you and for me than we can imagine!

Having dreams, having a hope for future is paramount for our wellbeing and that's how he created us.

"Learn how to live your life with your future in mind. When all is said and done, each of us will leave only four things behind: memories, souvenirs of our existence, trophies of our achievements, and legacies - all that we are and possess today" words of Paul J.

Meyer author of the book 'Unlocking your legacy".

We need to begin developing our own legacy which will bless and encourage us and those around us.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

This is one of my favourite verses in the Bible, for it opens up so much possibility in our lives, like the trees, while our aspirations or dreams may reach for the skies, Gods plans for us are even more lofty!

Of course, it is our choice, whether we wish to be part of his plan or not.

If we do, we will be open to the prompting of his Spirit, then we truly can unlock our true legacy as he "directs our paths".

Our legacy in God will always involve others, as he visualises the 'bigger picture', the salvation of all mankind and the world, of which we are all called to play a part.

Most of you will have heard by now that mine and Norman's journey with the parish here and the community is drawing to an end.

I have been appointed as Rector and Dean of the Kildare and Newbridge group of parishes, as of June. This comes after having the tremendous privilege of working and journeying alongside you all here in Templebreedy Group for the past thirteen years. Norman and I do not have words to express our gratitude for your love and support over that time.



Be assured as God calls me away, he is calling someone else to come. And they like me, will build on the legacies that has been left.

As we celebrate Easter together I invite you, like the third tree to 'think of God' and be reminded of Christ's legacy to us on the cross, sins forgiven and eternal life. All in God's plan for the world he loves.

"on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth trembled with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything."

Amen! Alleluia!

Wishing you and your loved one's a Blessed Easter!

Lenten Bible Study

Our Thursday weekly Lenten Bible Study began on the 2nd of March in the Rectory and on Zoom Link for those who don't travel out at night. Our theme is A Search for Peace, written by John Birch is very appropriate in the times we live in. The weekly topics includ-



ed -The Human Search for Peace; The Human Destruction of Peace; God, Peace, and the Old Testament; God, Peace, and the New Testament and Peace in the lives of believers.

Holy Week and Easter Services 2023



Tuesday 4th April—A Service of Compline in Nohoval Church at 8.00pm

Wednesday 5th April—A Late Evening Office in Holy Trinity at 8.00pm

Maundy Thursday 6th April — Holy Communion in Nohoval Church at 8.00pm

Good Friday 7th April— The Way of the Cross Nohoval Church at 3pm & A Service of the Word in Holy Trinity Church. at 8.00pm

Easter Sunday 9th April — Sunrise Service on Fountainstown Beach 7 am

NO 8.30am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity

Holy Communion—Nohoval 10am

Holy Communion—Holy Trinity 11.30am

Future Services

No 8.30am service on the 7th May

From the 4th June during there will be no 8.30am service

Isobe

attended by two hundred children and their teachers, led by Father Pat and Rev Isobel. Each of the schools learn about the county or island, make maps and flags, learn songs and this year make head wreaths. The indigenous people in Taiwan are very particular





about headwear. It not only represents social status but also contains rich cultural connotations. A head wreath is made by twining flowers and leaves into a circle. It expresses the cultural heritage of unity. It was a very colourful and special service.

Wobblers and Toddlers

This grow now meet on Thursday mornings from 11am in the rectory during term time.





Its wonderful to have time to relax over a cup of coffee and a chat, while the little one's play.

New Arrivals in March

Congratulations to Sarah and Brendan Woods on the safe arrival of Emmie on the 8th of March, and to; Tracy (Chambers) and John Moriarty on the birth of Hannah on the 12th, to April Vickery on the birth of Lonie on the 12th and congratulations to Alex and Michelle Musgrave on the arrival of Edward.



May the Lord bless these little ones as they bring such joy into their homes. It is so exciting to have new babies born, and we pray God's richest blessing on these new parents too.

Next Generation Praise

On October 30th we had a lovely time of worship in Holy Trinity Church in the afternoon with the younger families. This service liturgy allows for



more movement and hands



on learning. Our theme was 'Saints and Light', praising God with action songs, making a candle lighting bookmark and decorated some fabulous pumpkin cookies which we enjoyed eating.

Remembrance Sunday

We observed Remembrance Sunday on the 13th November and were delighted to welcome friends from Fort Camden Meagher and a special preacher, Rev. Ethine Lynch. We were all challenged to consider 'what have we done with what we saved'. The church choir sang 'The Fallen' as an anthem, and we enjoyed refreshments afterwards.

Paddy Casey comes to Crosshaven!

What a fantastic weekend with Paddy Casey and Crosshaven Community Choir! We had two wonderful nights of music and song in Holy Trinity Church on the 18th and 19th of November. The Concerts were organised by Dr Eva Mc Mullan director of the Crosshaven Community Choir. This choir was formed in 2017 and in



conjunction with Holy Trinity have invited Irish artists to sing for local fundraisers with the Choir in support. Our last concert just before Covid was with Brian Kennedy for the Alzheimer's Society. After a forced break we were delighted to welcome Paddy Casey and his daughter Saoirse Casey to entertain us at two sold out concerts in aid of Penny Dinners. Our MC's were Paul Linehan of the 'Frank and Walters' on Friday night and Caitriona Twomey of Penny Dinners on the Saturday night. It was brilliant to have the community together again and we are already looking forward to the next concert.

Christmas Fayre

The tradition of Christmas starting in Crosshaven on the last Saturday of November with the Templebreedy Christmas Fayre was



once again maintained. There was a tremendous

effort from both school parents and parishioners alike, with crafts being made by the 'crafty ladies' for the past months, preserves and chutneys, farm produce,

baking and so much more on offer. It was a very





Templebreedy Children's Choirs

The Children's Choir continue to lead us in worship on the fourth Sunday of the month. They are full of energy and learning lots of new pieces on Wednesday afternoons. They enjoy doing sign language with the words in some. Recently,



they have sung 'I've got the joy, joy, down in my heart' and 'Seek ye first the Kingdom of God', looking forward to hearing more from them. Thanks to Eva Mc Mullan for directing!

World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is an initiative which aims to make the lives of women and children easier by offering resources and support. On Friday 3rd March the com-



munity met in Nohoval Church at 8pm, to worship together. We alternate between churches and the service is prepared and taken by the community. The theme this





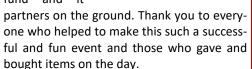




Marquee went up and pancakes were served. The usual home produce, cakes and crafts were on sale and a raffle which had endless prizes. €3400 was

raised and went to the field the following week ad-

ministered though Tearfund and it









Christingle

On Sunday afternoon 4th December we had a lovely time of worship in Holy Trinity Church with the younger families and the Children's Choir. This special Christingle service liturgy allows for more movement and creative doing. We sang



carols and listened to the light of Christ story, and all made Christingles. This orange with a red ribbon around the middle symbolises the world surrounded by Gods Love in Christ who died for us, a candle showing Jesus the Light as the of the World, and 4 sticks with sweets demonstrating Gods goodness to us all year



Children's Choir Christmas Party



Our party took place in the rectory following the Christingle service. Lots of fun and games, pin the nose on the reindeer even indoor snowballs! We enjoyed some party food and sang some songs after for Santa



to hear us, he did and dropped by to everyone's sur-

prise and delight. He told us all about his busy busy life this time of year and his production workshop.



Festive Coffee Morning



It was lovely to be able to enjoy a festive coffee morning once again at the Rectory on the 2nd December. There was a fantastic buzz and plenty of festive cheer. We do thank God



for his blessings and being able to meet and socialise again in person. Thanks to all who baked and came along and made it fun.



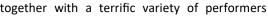


Nohoval Christmas Concert

We all enjoyed a wonderful concert again in Nohoval Church on the 2nd December with our wonderful MC for



night Valda Rumley, very well known in local drama circles! With beautiful decorations and lights





shop Sing-

ers, CAFÉ- Corks amazing Flute ensemble, Kiely Lehane on Harp, Amber Kaier- Organ, Colin Ross and Sinead, and Dan Twomey Tenor. Wonderful talent was enjoyed by a



News from the Nohoval Parish Treasurer

2023 really is springing by quickly. Firstly thank you to everyone who supported our two fund raising events last year. Its great to be back to these social gatherings.



As always thank you to everyone for your continued financial support to our church during these challenging times.

Finally a HUGH thank you to Rev. Isobel and Norman for all your help and support to this Treasurer over the last few years. Wishing you both all the best in your new venture. **Jackie Gleasure, Nohoval Parish Treasurer**

Festival Service

The Mothers Union annual festival Service took place Sunday the 12th of March at the Carraig Centre in Ballincollig. It was a wonderful time of fellowship together; the new chaplain, Rev Ivan Ruiters, was commissioned alongside the new trustees. Farewell



was said and a big thank you to Rev Isobel Jackson, who has been chaplain for the past 10 years. Thank you to Bishop Paul and all at the Carraig Centre for making it such a memorable occasion. Mothers' N

Pancakes for Turkey and Syria



Shrove Tuesday we had a parish fundraiser

for the Turkey and Syrian Earthquake Appeal following the morning service. A wonderful turnout with folks dropping in from the local community too. The

Confirmation Preparation

Our confirmation candidates have begun to meet for their course at the rectory to learn and fellowship together ahead of their confirmation later in the year. They had a wonderful time in Carhue Camp



Centre with CDYC on Friday 3rd of March, much fun was had and learning together, they looked at the

Friday night. Next day
Saturday the 4th the entire
group including the other
parish candidates travelled
by bus to Canon Packham
Hall in Douglas for the annual Bishop's morning
which was a packed programme and a wonderful
opportunity to see all the
diocesan candidates
together. There was food,
bowling and mini golf fol-



subjects of worship, prayer and about the Bible on



lowing and more in the Carhue Centre before home pick up at 9.30pm. All that was required then was sleep! Thank you to Hilda and to the Bishop and all their combined leaders who did a wonderful job and made the weekend one to remember.

On Mothering Sunday, the candidates did a great job in leading the morning worship and are enjoying helping out in the weekly church services in welcoming and giving out and collecting the books. We look forward to April when bishop Paul will come to the parish for their special service.





packed church, with local Mulled Stonewell Cider and Mince Pies at the interval. Thank you to all who helped to make this another memorable night.

Canon George Murphy was presented with a retirement gift and was thanked for his dedicated and generous ministry and community spirit over three decades.

Carol Services

On Sunday 11th December in the evening, we had a very special Carol Service in Nohoval Church and in Holy Trinity on the 16th.

What a joy it was to gather together and sing without the restrictions of the past two years! and sing we did!



The Children's Church Members in Nohoval did a beautiful drama about the Shepherds and the Angels, narrat-



ed by Matthew Howe. Thanks to the team, and to everyone who took part.



Our parish school Carol Service was on Monday 19th. The school children played an active part in the singing of carols, readings and prayers. We all enjoyed singing a new carol 'The virgin Mary had a baby boy' in Reggae style. Grateful thanks to our teachers and to Mr. Peter Stobart for all the preparation.

Most grateful thanks to those who decorated both

churches so beautifully for Christmas.

Christmas Services

Our Christmas services began at 11.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve in Holy Trinity. What a wonderful way to welcome the Light into our World. Christmas Day services too were enriching as family members were reunited with many travelling home. Zara Black sang beautifully at the Holy Trinity morning service. It was so uplifting that in a society of apparent apathy and complacency that so many families came to church to celebrate the wonderful event of the Birth of Christ.

Carol Singing at Centra



Our local Centra shop in Crosshaven invite the church choir to come and sing at their December 'Tasting Festival' annually.

We enjoy it and its always done for a good cause. This year we raised €300 for Cork Simon.

Seamans Christian Friend Society- Supporting Seafarers

Our November and Christmas Gift Bags were delivered to Seafarers/Merchant Ship Crew in the Port of Cork and Whitegate up to February.

An unusual request came in February, a ship in Cork Port was asking for a second or third hand bicycle to keep on board to make getting into town easier in the ports they visit, if allowed off the thirty eight



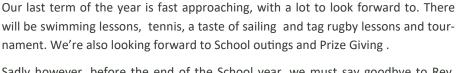
year old ship. There were five crew on board who came from Albania, Egypt and Ethiopia. The word was put out in the parish and within hours a beautiful bike was delivered to the port, to the crews' delight. The bicycle was technically arranged from Argentina, ask Rev Isobel if you would like the full story! A big thank you to the family involved.

Our gift packs are usually geared towards men as the majority of seafarers are, with the occasional female Officer or Captain. This

month there was a female Captain from the Netherlands, and on one Arklow Trawler an Irish crew man, Colin Jenkins of SCFS says it is very unusual to meet anyone Irish on the ships, all foreign nationals.

We as a parish continue to support by providing personal gift bags containing practical items of need, like shower gel, shampoo, soap, heavy socks, warm hats, razors, boxers, snack bars, writing pads etc to merchant crew. Women's items are very welcome too.

This ministry is one that continues to amaze, both in the generosity of our community and the blessing that it gives to the seafarers who receive these gifts. Thank you to all who continue to contribute to this collection, which we have been doing for over two years now.



Sadly however, before the end of the School year, we must say goodbye to Rev. Isobel, Norman and their family. It would be impossible to list the many ways that they have worked, helped and supported us in the school. Rev. Isobel visited each classroom every week, held assemblies and several school services throughout the year. In addition she served on the school board and has been a constant support to us in everything we did. We valued her calm guidance and her care. Likewise Norman has been extraordinarily generous with his time and expertise. He has worked tirelessly to assist us with our building project, and provide help readily wherever it was needed.

We were blessed to have had them with us for 13 years, and now we wish them well, and extend congratulations to Rev. Isobel as she takes up her new appointment, as Incumbent of Newbridge and Kildare, and Dean of St. Brigid's Cathedral, Kildare.

Doris Bryan, Principal

Notes from the Templebreedy Treasury

Having just presented the 2022 accounts to the Easter General Vestry, I am pleased to say that the parish is in a good financial position. Once again thank you to all who support the parish by Bank Standing orders, envelope donations and of course the weekly plate collections.



We continue to get a substantial tax refund from the Revenue Commissioners, so it is important that we continue to avail of this source of income, it is now 4 years since we asked most contributors to sign the relevant forms. We will shortly be doing this again but please remember by signing this form we do not know anyone's tax details, revenue do not disclose if a person is/isn't a tax payer. All we get is a bulk refund. Thank you to one and all.

Barry Jenkins, Parish Treasurer

Templebreedy School News

We ended last term with a very successful Christmas Fayre. Thanks once again to everyone who contributed in different ways to its success.



We had our Carol Service, Christmas parties and the children packed shoe boxes for Cork Penny Dinners.

After Christmas holidays we were delighted to welcome Ilia and Oleg and their family to the school community.

Our first trip of the year was to Fota, where the Infant and Middle classes, had a really enjoyable day. We were treated to a behind the scenes tour of the giraffe house and the kitchens where the animals' food is prepared, as well as an informative tour of some of the other animals. This trip supported many areas of the Curriculum as well as completing some of the work for the Green Schools' Flag for Biodiversity.

The senior children are currently rehearsing with Mr. Stobart as they prepare to sing with children from other schools, in the Childrens' Choir at the Opening Gala Concert for this years Cork International Choral Festival.

The second term is always busy in the classroom with many activities taking place for World Book Day, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Shrove Tuesday, Mothers' Day , St. Patrick's Day and Easter. We were joined by the children from the other primary schools in Crosshaven for a service to mark World Prayer Day. The teachers and 6th class pupils from the three primary schools also got together for workshops on Internet Safety. These workshops were given by Dr. Maureen Griffin, a Forensic Psychologist and were most enlightening.

The children have enjoyed taking part in hockey matches, the Hockey Tournament and Blitz. We are very fortunate to have our dedicated coaches, Cathy and Ben working with the children.

Isabel Murphy represented us very ably in the Easons Spelling Bee.

It has been a while since we've had a drama teacher come to the school, and we were delighted to return to it this term, with a teacher from the Montfort School of Drama working in each classroom every week. The children are now looking forward to performing for their parents.

Nohoval Children's Church.

Children's Church is in full swing in our Upper Room every second Sunday of the month.



Thank you to all who have gone through Garda Vetting and Safeguarding Trust Training.

We have a wide range of ages in our group but it all seems to come together as we work together learning God's word in a child friendly way.

We do many activities but the highlight was when the children did a short drama for the Christmas Carol service. We had Angels and Shepherds beautifully dressed and at the end of the piece the applause showed the Congregations appreciation.

Looking forward to the next few months as we explore together and then we will take a break for July and August.

Finally thank you to Rev. Isobel for all her support and leadership over the years and we wish her God's blessings in her new parish.

Leaders

Amy, Laura, Isobel, Tara, Elizabeth and Jackie.

Templebreedy Church Choir

The Choir enjoyed a lovely Christmas 2022 season, singing at many events including Maryborough Nursing Home and outside Centra in the village for charity. The various carol services also kept us on our toes! Then in early January, Choir member Della invited us to a less formal "sing song" at her home in Fountainstown.



Practice is currently suspended for a few weeks, but we hope to be back to our usual Monday evening practice at 7.30pm soon. The service of Confirmation on Sunday 23rd April is a definite date for our diary, as well as the usual Sunday service singing. For the confirmation we have been learning the lovely "Bless my Soul" by Matt Redman and we look forward to including this hymn in our congregational repertoire. Before we know it, we will be getting out our buckets and spades for the summer!!

Organist and choirmaster Roger Ellis

Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is with Aynsley Damery on the sudden passing of his father Norman of Fennell's Bay, on the 6th of January and so soon after his mother Mary's passing last October. A very distressing time for the family. Our thoughts and prayers are with Aynsley and the wider family, neighbours and friends.

Sympathy

Epiphany

We celebrated the Epiphany with the whole school family on the 6th of January. Epiphany or Twelfth Night is often seen as the day when Christmas decorations are taken down, but for Christians it is a very ancient festival. From the Fourth Century, it rated with Easter and Pentecost as one of the three principal festivals of the Church.

Christ is revealed to the 'Magi', the Wise Men from the East who searched for truth and found it at Bethlehem. The main theme of the Epiphany season is the revelation of Christ as the light of the world and the King of all nations — Gentiles and Jews. The children presented the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh representing Christs humanity, deity and mission as the carol puts it 'Glorious now, behold him arise, King, and God, and Sacrifice! Heav'n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies'.

Holy Baptism

It was wonderful to have our first baptism this year on Sunday the 22nd of January in Holy Trinity. Rebecca and Colin Mc Cormack brought Oliver Brian for Holy Baptism with the able assistance of his sister Chloe and Brother William. Children are baptised as a sign of God's generous love. Parents and godparents who



have responded to that love come to bring their child/ren for baptism. The congregation welcomed Ollie, his family and godparents Maria, Cian and Nelius. We heard the gospel story of Jesus calling his disciples, and how they reacted to that calling, Andrew was so excited when he met Jesus he couldn't sit still- and he kept telling people about him and introducing people to him, he just kept fizzing out his faith, we were challenged to do the same.

Marriage Course

Through the months of January and February we have had six couples doing a pre-marriage course which took place over Zoom. Our couples joined in from Cork, Dublin, Co. Down and the Netherlands. This course is designed to improve and enrich our relationship with the most important person in our lives. We had the opportunity to look at topics such as Communication, Conflict, Commitment, Connection and Adventure. The course was very successful and each of the six couples have valued the topics.

Christian Unity Service

It's been a while since we've had a service for the week of prayer for Christian Unity. We did daily reflections and prayers in more recent times. The material this year was produced by churches from Minneapolis under the theme Be-Longing: Praying for Unity amidst Injustice. It was a joy for community to join together to pray and sing. Delighted to be accompanied by the Fr. Pat Stevenson and our good neighbours at St Brigid's. The fellowship continued during refreshments. Father Pat will be retiring and leaving Crosshaven parish in the coming months.

Friendship Club

In November we had chair exercises with Ann O' Brien which were great fun, and in December Esther Ross and Christine Brown demonstrated wonderful Christmas floral decorations, lots of ideas for home, these beautiful arrangements were raffled and taken home by delighted persons. In January a wonderful lunch was enjoyed in Perry Street Café in Rinaskiddy, a marvellous turnout.

We welcomed Colin Jenkins and Charles Hancock from the Seamans Christian Friend Society to speak to us about their work with those they meet on the ships in Cork's Ports. We learned that life at sea is hard and challenging, and we realised that most of us living on land give little thought to the people who work to keep our global economy afloat. SCFS for over 170 years has been tending to the spiritual, physical and emotional welfare of the seafaring community. Today SCFS have friends in ports all around the world, holding out a hand of friendship, helping to address some of the practical needs and sharing the love of Christ. An inspiring ministry. Thank you, Jane and Liz, for organising.



Children's Corners

Continue to make use of our kiddies corners in



Crosshaven and Nohoval Churches.

This is an area where you can sit with your children during the service while they play or do an activity sheet linked in with the day's theme.