



The Dunboyne and Rathmolyon Bugle November/December 2023

Facebook: [DunboyneandRathmolyonGroup](#)

Sing ye of Bethlehem

This bumper double edition of The Bugle (including a new 'Creation Corner') covers a host of services and events that will take place across our Group of Parishes in November and December.

You will see that all sorts of activities are planned in the weeks ahead; some really joyous, others not so.

Significantly for the Rathmolyon Union of Parishes, Sunday 26th November will mark the closure of St Michael and All Angels Church in Rathmolyon and Sunday 31st December will mark the closure of St Ultan's Church in Rathcore. From 2024, Agher Church will become the principal Church for Rathmolyon Parish.

These two services are opportunities to acknowledge the grief and loss that such closures bring, but they are also opportunities to give thanks for God's goodness and rejoicing in God's hope as we move forward into 2024.

Indeed, just as we experience closure, we can also experience new life. In Spring 2024, the brand new school building for St Peter's National School is due to open.

One particularly significant event which I wish to highlight are the Dunboyne Parish fundraising concerts, 'Sing ye of Bethlehem' on Thursday 23rd and Saturday 25th November at 7.30pm. They are based upon a remarkable new Christmas Carol, whose words and music were created last Christmas by Dunboyne parishioner Conor Bowman.

The third verse sums up beautifully the range of emotions and circumstances we may experience at this time, but it also draws our gaze back towards the reason for the season:

*Sing ye of Bethlehem follow His way:
Pauper and pilgrim and sinner and stray.
Kneel in His stable when dark day is done,
Sit at His table when the kingdom comes.*

Thank you to everyone in the Parish who has been so supportive recently. Please send any news through for the next January edition of The Bugle to rectoratdunboyne@gmail.com.

Wishing you and your loved ones a very blessed Advent, Christmas and New Year.

Rev Philip McKinley

Upcoming Services

Sunday 19 November		Second Sunday before Advent	
Rathmolyon 9.45am	MP	Judges 4: 1-7	Linda Conwell
Dunboyne 10am	HC	Psalm 123	Rev James Reid
Maynooth 11.30am	MP	1 Thess 5: 1-11	Fred Moody
Dunshaughlin 11.30am	HC	Matthew 25: 14-30	Rev James Reid
Sunday 26 November		The Kinship of Christ	
Rathmolyon 9.45am	HC	Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24	Rev Philip McKinley
Dunboyne 10am	HC	Psalm 100	Rev Trevor Holmes
Maynooth 11.30am	MP	Ephesians 1: 15-23	Cormac Corrigan
Dunshaughlin 11.30am	HC	Matthew 25: 31-46	Rev Trevor Holmes
Sunday 3 December		The First Sunday in Advent	
Rathcore 9.45am	MP	Isaiah 64: 1-9	Enid Wilkinson
Dunboyne 10am	MP	Psalm 80: 1-8, 18-20	Pearl Cowan
Maynooth 11.30am	MP	1 Corinthians 1: 3-9	Pearl Cowan
Dunshaughlin 11.30am	MP	Mark 13: 24-37	Keith Snowe
Sunday 10 December		The Second Sunday in Advent	
Rathcore 9.45am	HC	Isaiah 40: 1-11	Rev James Reid
Dunboyne 10am	HC	Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13	Rev Philip McKinley
Maynooth 11.30am	HC	2 Peter 3: 8-15	Rev James Reid
Dunshaughlin 11.30am	HC	Mark 1: 1-8	Rev Philip McKinley
Sunday 17 December		The Third Sunday in Advent	
Dunboyne 10am	HC	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11	Rev Horace McKinley
Maynooth 11.30am	HC	Psalm 126	Rev Horace McKinley
Dunshaughlin 11.30am	MP	1 Thess 5: 16-24	Cormac Corrigan
Rathcore 6.00pm	Carols	John 1: 6-8, 19-28	Enid, Valerie and Linda
Wednesday 20 December			
Maynooth, 7.00pm	Carols		Rev Philip and Cormac Corrigan
Sunday 24 December		Christmas Eve	
Rathcore 9.45am	MP	2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16	Enid and Valerie
Oak Centre 10am	SOW	Magnificat	Rev Philip and Fred Moody
Maynooth 11.30am	SOW	Romans 16: 25-27	Rev Philip and Fred Moody
Dunshaughlin 11.30am	MP	Luke 1: 26-38	Keith Snowe
Dunboyne, 10.00pm	HC		Rev Philip McKinley
Monday 25th December		Christmas Day	
Rathcore 9.45am	HC	Isaiah 52: 7-10	Rev Philip McKinley
Maynooth 11.30am	HC	Psalm 98	Rev Trevor Holmes
Dunshaughlin 11.30am	HC	Hebrews 1: 1-4, (5-12)	Rev Philip McKinley
		John 1: 1-14, (15-18)	
Sunday 31 December		The First Sunday of Christmas	
United Service 11.30am		Isaiah 61: 10- 62:3	Rev Philip McKinley
Rathcore		Psalm 148	
		Galatians 4: 4-7	
		Luke 2: 15-21	

Dunboyne and Rathmolyon Group of Parishes

Advent and Christmas 2023

SERVICES

Sunday 10 December

Nativity Service, St Peter's Dunboyne (10.00am)

Sunday 17 December

Nativity Service, St Seachnall's Dunshaughlin
(11.30am)

Carol Service, St Ultan's Rathcore (6.00pm)

Wednesday 20 December

Ecumenical Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
St Mary's Maynooth (7.00pm)

Friday 22 December

St Peter's National School Nativity Service,
St Peter's Dunboyne (9.00am)

Sunday 24 Christmas Eve

Family Service, St Ultan's Rathcore (9.45am)

Family Service, Oak Centre Dunboyne (10.00am)

Family Service, St Mary's Maynooth (11.30am)

Family Service, St Seachnall's Dunshaughlin (11.30am)

Holy Communion, St Peter's Dunboyne (10.00pm)

Monday 25 Christmas Day

Holy Communion, St Ultan's Rathcore (9.45am)

Holy Communion, St Mary's Maynooth (11.30am)

Holy Communion, St Seachnall's Dunshaughlin
(11.30am)

Sunday 31 December

United Service and Service of Closure,
St Ultan's Rathcore (11.30am)



Sing ye of Bethlehem



We would love to see you

Parish News

A Night of Music Maynooth

On Sunday 22nd October at 7.30pm, St.Mary's Brass and Reed Band Maynooth hosted a Night of Music in St Mary's Church of Ireland Maynooth. Joining the Band was the Craobh Mhaigh Nuad Traditional Group from Comhaltas Maynooth.



Dunshaughlin Christmas Cards

Anne Boyland is selling handmade Christmas cards in aid of the Dunshaughlin roof repairs. If you would like to support this worthy cause please email - cardsanne@gmail.com



School Pumpkin Carving Winners

Warmest congratulations to all the wonderful winners of the School Pumpkin Carving Competition and thanks to Tom and Avril McCabe for their hard work as judges of the competition.



Opening of the Maynooth Education Campus

On Wednesday 8th November the Maynooth Education Campus was formally opened by the Minister for Education, Norma Foley TD. The Campus includes Maynooth Community College and Maynooth Post Primary School. Local church leaders attended.



Remembrance Sunday in Dunboyne

Warmest thanks to Suzanne Hassard, Janice Fitzgerald and her sister Carol who crocheted poppies for the pulpit on Remembrance Sunday, 12th November, in St Peter's Dunboyne. Thanks to Joan Bruton for her assistance also.



Retirement Group in Farmleigh

On Thursday 26th October the Church Retirement Group visited Farmleigh House in the Phoenix Park. Please email Anne Boyland if you wish to join the Retirement Group - cardsanne@gmail.com

Shock Your Senses PTA Fundraiser

St Peter's National School PTA organised a Shock your Senses event - a 12 hour walk/run/roll in Dunboyne Park (facing the school) - on Saturday 21st of October from 7am – 7pm. Congratulations to all who took part in this important fundraiser.



Maynooth Men's Shed

Warmest thanks to the Maynooth Men's Shed for their invitation and welcome on Wednesday 18th October to their great facilities on the Dunboyne Road, overlooking the River Rye.



GDPR forms

Many thanks to the 124 parishioners who filled out their GDPR forms before the 12th Nov deadline. However we still need the remaining parishioners to fill out theirs, so that we can update everybody's details. Copies are available in each church.



Happy retirement

On Friday 27th October, Dave Anderson (Rector's Churchwarden, Dunshaughlin) retired as Principal of Adamstown Community College in Dublin. On the school Instagram page, a beautiful tribute was posted, which said, "Thank you for the laughs, for making this a fun place to be. For empowering us all. For supporting all of our talents, from sports to melody. For embracing our difference, for celebrating diversity"



Bravest teacher

Warmest congratulations to Mr Corcoran for braving the bush tucker trial which involved having a tarantula walk over him! Thanks to Ben from Dino Experience for putting him through the torture. Well done to all the teachers and pupils in St Peter's National School for organising such a fun day on Friday 27th October.



Deepest sympathies

We express our deepest sympathies to the family of Colum Hanley who died on Tuesday 14th November and whose funeral and burial took place in St Seachnall's Church, Dunshaughlin on Thursday 16th November.

Deepest sympathies also to George Hughes on the death of his sister Louise on Tuesday 7th November and to Joanna Campbell-Griffin on the death of her brother Rod on the 25th October.



Upcoming Events



Rathmolyon Service of Closure - 26th Nov

On Sunday 26th November at 9.45am, a Service of Holy Communion will take place on the occasion of the closure of St Michael and All Angels Church in Rathmolyon, Co Meath. The Service follows a long process of discernment and deliberation by the Select Vestry, as stewards of the Parish resources who are charged with seeking to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Parish. St Michael and All Angels was built in 1797 having replaced an older church which was in use until 1784. All are warmly invited to attend this significant milestone and to pray for the Select Vestry, Parish and wider community.

Sing Ye of Bethlehem - 23rd & 25th Nov

On Thursday 23rd and Saturday 25th November, a brand new Christmas Carol, entitled 'Sing Ye of Bethlehem' will premiere at two special Parish fundraising concerts in St Peter's Church, Dunboyne, Co Meath. The carol was written by Dunboyne parishioner, Conor Bowman who works as a barrister by day and an author and songwriter by night.



The carol will be performed by a specially formed Parish Pop-Up Choir made up of parishioners from Dunboyne and Rathmolyon Group of Parishes and members of the St Peter's National School community. A special School choir made up of pupils from St Peter's will also perform, along with the Vocal Vibes adult and Children's choir from Dunboyne.

School Christmas Fair - 2nd Dec

The School Christmas Fair takes place on Saturday 2nd December, from 10.30am - 1.00pm in the Oak Centre, Dunboyne. All are warmly welcome.



Eimear Quinn concert Maynooth - 19th Dec

Eurovision winner and Classic FM Hall of Fame composer Eimear Quinn will play in St Mary's, Maynooth for her Christmas Concert on Tuesday 19th December - Doors 7.30pm. This concert took place at the same time last year and proved so popular that it is back again. Tickets are available from <https://ticketstop.ie>.



Ecumenical Taizé Prayer Maynooth - 30th Nov

The churches in Maynooth are coming together for a special ecumenical Taizé Prayer Evening in St. Joseph's Oratory, St Patrick's College, Maynooth on the 30th of November at 7.00pm. All are warmly welcome to take part.



Select Vestry meetings - 23rd and 30th Nov

The Rural Dean, Reverend Damien O'Cathain (right) will chair Select Vestry meetings on Thursday 23rd November at 8pm in Rathmolyon Church (Rathmolyon Union) and on Thursday 30th November at 8pm in The Oak Centre, Dunboyne (Dunboyne Union)



Retirement Group Christmas lunch - 30th Nov

Christmas lunch for the Retirement Group will take place in the Springfield Hotel in Leixlip at 12.30pm on Thursday 30th November. Please let Anne Boyland know if you wish to attend - cardsanne@gmail.com.

Vocation Evening - 21st Nov

An evening of prayer and reflection takes place on Tuesday 21st November, 7.30pm in the St Mary's Church, Navan for all those discerning a vocation to ministry. All are warmly welcome.



School Christmas Craft Night - 22nd Nov

A special Christmas Social Evening takes place in the Oak Centre on Wednesday 22nd November as parents prepare logs and crafts for the Christmas Fair.



Rathcore Service of Closure - 31st Dec

On Sunday 31st December at 11.30am, there will be a United Service across the whole Group of Parishes, which will mark the closure of St Ultan's Church, Rathcore. The church which was built in 1806, is exploring new possibilities after its closure. All those who have connections with the church, old or new, are warmly encouraged to attend the service.

From January 2024 onwards, Agher Church will become the principle church for the Rathmolyon Union of Parishes.

School Choir performances

The St Peter's NS school choir have lots of exciting performances coming up!

1st Dec - Choir Performance as we 'Switch on Christmas at St. Peter's NS'

20th Dec - 'Black Santa Appeal' at St Ann's Church, Dawson Street

3rd Feb - Peace Proms in the RDS



Oak Centre Parish Activities

Crafty Y'Oaks will meet on Monday 4th December 7.45pm to 9.45pm.

Table Tennis meets on Mondays from 7.30pm.

Sadly the Bowling Club has decided to close.



The
Oak Centre
Church of Ireland

Crafty Y'Oaks Tree

The Crafty Y'Oaks tree will be created again at the beginning of December. If anyone has made a hat for this, could they please get it back to Janice Fitzgerald by the beginning of December.

In January, the tree is dismantled and the hats are brought into Focus Ireland's office in Temple Bar for distribution to Dublin's homeless men and women.

Creation Corner

Dunshaughlin Eco-Congregation

On Saturday 11th November, Leo Regan, George Wilkinson and Ed Dormer, who are members of St Seachnall's Eco-Congregation Working Group, attended an online meeting of Eco-Congregation Ireland chaired by the former leader of the Green Party and now the Rector of Bunclody in Co Wexford, Rev Trevor Sergeant. The meeting explored ways for churches to become recognised as Eco-Congregations.



Rathcore graveyard

During the autumn months, the graveyard in St Ultan's Rathcore has really shone with a dazzling array of colours from bright wild flowers near the gate of the church. Thanks to all those who have planted these beautiful flowers.



Maynooth Tidy Towns project at St Mary's

Maynooth Tidy Towns are a very active group of volunteers who retained their gold medal this year. Previous projects undertaken by the group include the creation of a Sensory Garden at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church a few years ago. In February 2024, the committee have plans for the shrubbery at the rear of St Mary's and the grass area at the front. A grant has been received from Kildare County Council and the group hope to work on this in the Spring with a focus on planting of pollinator plants and native species.



Clergy Conference - Biodiversity loss

The Dioceses of Meath and Kildare Clergy Conference took place from the 8th - 10th November in the beautiful seaside surrounds of Ballyvaloo in Co Wexford. The first afternoon welcomed Dr Dara Fitzpatrick, who is a lecturer in analytical chemistry at University College Cork and whose specialty is biodiversity. As part of his talk, he brought the clergy out on a walk to see first hand the effects of biodiversity loss.