

CCR BULLETIN

January 2018 (web version)

CALENDAR OF SERVICES etc.

January 14th	11.00 am	Quarterly Holy Communion	Revd Purvis Campbell
	SAS SUNDAY	Farewell to Simon O'Moore Donohoe	
January 21st	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd Purvis Campbell
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Revd Purvis Campbell
January 28th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd James Carson
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Revd James Carson
		Homeless Sunday - Designated by Churches Together in Britain & Ireland	
February 4th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd Purvis Campbell
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Revd Purvis Campbell
	SAS SUNDAY		
Elders on Duty	Doreen Steenson	Stewards	Joanne Vance Cronin
	Maureen Collins		Hannah Vance Cronin
Flowers	7th January	Jimmy Gibson	14th January Paul Fry
	21st January	Elizabeth Campbell	28th January Paul Fry

The Church Committee will meet in the Fletcher Room at 8 pm on **Tuesday 30th January**. **The Congregational AGM** will take place **in the Lecture Hall on Wednesday 7th February** at 7.30 pm. This will be an important evening for the Congregation, so please reserve the date in your Diary.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS UNITY SERVICE will take place on Sunday 21st January in **St. Joseph's, Terenure** at 3.00 pm. The material, prepared by the churches of the Caribbean, is based on Exodus Ch. 15 which proclaims the power of the Lord's right hand to free His people from oppression. The special speaker will be Katherine Stafford of the Dublin Progressive Jewish Congregation. It promises to be a most interesting occasion. **Please do your best to attend.**

A Happy New Year to all our congregation, and may 2018 be for you a year of manifold blessings, and growth in your discipleship! Our sympathies however go out to the family of Stanley Laing whom we lost on 2nd January, a day after his 88th Birthday. Stanley was a charming, quiet man of outstanding integrity. After a challenging start to his life, he devoted himself to the service of others through local politics becoming Cathaoirleach of the South Dublin County Council, and served the church as an elder for 62 years in Adelaide Rd and CCR. We will miss him greatly. Our sympathies also go to May Wilkes who recently lost her daughter-in-law Margaret. We pray that all those who have suffered loss may experience the healing presence of the Lord. Many of us have been ill with persistent colds or flu, a trying experience which usually finishes with a zestful realization in recovery that we are again the whole person we were. This allows us to give thanks and re-dedicate ourselves to the service of the God who constantly restores our life. We were happy to see **Alice Gibson** back among us at Christmas, and to hear that **Audrey Simpson**, now in long-stay care on the site of what was the Meath Hospital, has recently made considerable progress. It is lovely to have **Terry Cobbe** back with us after a knee operation, and we wish him more comfort and mobility as his recovery progresses.

It is very sad to be saying an official good-bye to **Simon O'Moore Donohoe** at our Communion Service on 14th January. He has contributed so much to CCR with the children and young people for so long that we will not know ourselves without him. A proper appreciation is promised for our February Bulletin. In the meantime we wish him all the best for his promising teaching career. He will be especially missed for his Christmas specials such as the arrival of the Christ child and the Magi at the crib by cable car on Christmas Eve. **Simon** will stay on in the Lodge until the end of March.

New Year is a good time to subscribe to the **Presbyterian Herald**. It is a lively way to keep up with what is - and isn't - happening in the wider PCI @ €12 for 10 issues. Have a look online!

Church Architect - Roisin Hanley was appointed Church Architect by a unanimous vote of a joint meeting of Session and Committee on 6th December. Ms Hanley presented a history of the site and some of her first impressions. She suggested starting with small steps to open the site up to light, use the strengths of the building's design, and reduce the impression of a fortress. The congregation needed a short and clear definition of its mission to the Community. She was very open to our views.

Committee Meeting 12th December - The Committee's discussion was wide-ranging - The lift breakdown during the Gospel Choir Concert; How to reduce the cost of protecting people from the neighbour's collapsing wall? How best to deal with its repair? This item and the Tennant hall refurbishment were to be referred to the incoming church architect. The most enjoyable **Gujarat** lunch raised €700, of which €200 was sent to India to provide Christmas lunch for the residents of the Dangs' hostels. We also discussed liaison between the Committee and the **Church Lettings Officer** - to be **Gavin Cobbe**. Communicating with new members and about them to other church members.

Christmas cards - You may bring the picture part of Greetings cards to a box under the table in the back porch. **Jill McQuillan** can use them with her Special Needs Group. **VERY Many Thanks!**

The Explorers Ecumenical Bible study group will meet again on 15th December to discuss **The man born blind** (John 9) at 7.30pm at the Mount Tabor Centre, Sandymount Green under the expert and inspiring direction of **Rev. Dr Kieran O'Mahony OSA**. New Explorers most welcome.

CCR Bank Details: For those who would like to make direct financial contributions to Christ Church Rathgar, please note the Bank details are as follows:

AIB Bank - BIC: AIBKIE2D IBAN: IE94 AIBK 931225 05581090

Minister's contact details: please contact the Editor below for 'phone or Manse address. email-minister@christchurchrathgar.org

Bulletin Editor's Details: Email address: bulletineditor@christchurchrathgar.org Suggestions for those needing our prayers especially welcome. Robin Simmons's phone number will be found in the Phonebook. NB Copy deadline for February Bulletin - **Thurs 1st February**, to appear on 4th February.

The Explorers (Sandymount Inter-Church Scripture Reading Group) 2017-2018

The Gospel according to John: eight evening gatherings.

We are meeting again this year in the Community Room of the Mount Tabor Care Centre. We meet from 7.30 - 9.00 pm, beginning and ending promptly.

All evenings will be led by Rev. Dr Kieran O'Mahony, OSA, Biblical Studies Coordinator, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Dublin

Monday, 15 January 2018 The man born blind (John 9)

Monday, 19 February 2018 The washing of the feet (John 13)

Monday, 19 March 2018 Jesus' death (John 18-19)

Monday, 16 April 2018 Jesus' resurrection (John 20)

All are welcome to any or all evenings of this series. Please bring a Bible with you.