

CCR BULLETIN

March 2017 (as at 27/2/17)

SERVICES

March 5th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Very Revd Dr Trevor Morrow
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Very Revd Dr Trevor Morrow
March 12th	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	Marianne Knoetze
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Marianne Knoetze
March 19th	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	Werner van den Hemel
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Werner van den Hemel
March 26th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Very Revd Dr Trevor Morrow
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Very Revd Dr Trevor Morrow
April 2nd	11.00 am	Quarterly Holy Communion	Revd Lorraine Kennedy Ritchie
		There will be no 9.30 service	

Elders on Duty	Jenny Gray Randal Gray	Stewards	George Stuart Susan Taylor
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Flowers	5th March	Jenny Moffett	19th March	To be arranged
	12th March	Ruth Ward	26th March	To be arranged

MEETINGS

The Kirk Session on 1st March at 8 pm in the Fletcher Room.

The Church Committee on 14th March at 8pm in the Fletcher Room

LENT: A time to give up our old sins or develop our discipleship? Lent begins on Wednesday March 1st, after clearing away the flour and lemon pips of Shrove Tuesday. Certainly a time to prepare for Easter and its amazing demonstration of God's love for the creation. The burgeoning of spring encourages us to renew our vocation and commitment. CCR's Lenten activities are now mainly provided by the Rathgar/Terenure Fellowship Group. CCR prides itself as a Congregation with a strong ecumenical vocation. Please try to support the different events organised for us during Lent and get to know your Christian neighbours! The unity of the churches is a gift from God which is given to us as we Christians practise working together.

PRAYER : We are thankful that Jimmy G. is now out of hospital, and ask your continuing prayer for him as he continues what will be a long convalescence. Please remember also a member of our congregation about to undergo a course of radiotherapy. We pray that all those we know who are suffering from the loss of bereavement that they may be comforted by the constant re-assuring encouragement of the Holy Spirit, and bear especially in mind the family of Pauline Mossop. We met **Julia Fraser** for the first time at church recently, and join with her parents Stephen and Rachel, sister Ella, and grandparents Robin and Pam in rejoicing in her gracious presence. Can we look forward to a time when baptisms outnumber funerals at CCR?

GOLF OUTING - A Golf Outing and Fellowship Dinner is being organized at **Rathfarnham Golf club for Friday 28th April** . Tee times: 1.00-1.30p,m: Dinner 6.30 for 7pm. **Cost:** Golf - €30 p.p. / Golf & Dinner - €50 / Dinner only - €20 p.p. The CCR Golf Outing (last held in 1991!) is being revived and combined with a Congregational Fellowship Dinner. We hope as many as possible will be able to attend either one or other or, indeed, both! Advance payment would be appreciated and can be made to either Alison Houston or Jennifer Moffett. Early booking will be a great help so please respond as soon as possible. If you would like to donate golf competition prizes or 'lucky dip' presents, please also tell Alison. Look forward to seeing you there!

The Explorers' Bible study group's next meeting on **Monday 20th March** will examine **The Conclusion-Romans Ch 15v6-33, Ch 16** - Meetings take place in the Community Room of the Mount Tabor Care Centre, Sandymount Green, and begin at 7.30 sharp. **More info online.**

Lenten Events presented by the Rathgar/Terenure Fellowship:

Lenten Lecture Series

Rathgar Methodist Church will be the venue for a 6-week series of Lenten presentations called "Christianity From Where I'm Sitting", from Wednesday 1st March to Wednesday 5th April inclusive at 8.00 pm. **David Norris (March 1st), Gordon Linney (March 8th), Patsy McGarry (March 15th), Kieran O'Mahony (March 22nd), Gillian Kingston (March 29th) and Fiona Murdoch (April 5th)** will share something of their religious experiences and their impressions of Christianity today and its possible future. Admission is free, but there will be a retiring collection every evening in aid of each speaker's nominated charity. Everyone is very welcome and please spread the word. **More information about speakers online.**

Women's World Day of Prayer - Our local service is on **Friday 3rd March at 7.30pm** in the Salvation Army rooms in the Swan Centre, Rathmines. The service comes from the women of the Philippines and has the theme "Am I being unfair to you?". Your support for this world wide ecumenical service will be most welcome.

Ecumenical Lenten Meditation - from 1st March to 12th April - Silence in the Parish

This programme of early morning silent meditation during Lent will take place again on weekdays, Monday to Friday, from 7.45 am to 8.15 am, at the Church of the Three Patrons, Rathgar Road.

John Whyte - The Irish Times of 17th February highlighted the work of CCR member John Whyte in the €324 million reconstruction of a UNWRRA camp for Palestinian refugees in North Lebanon. John, who had formerly overseen the reconstruction of Fatima Mansions in Dublin 8, was showing the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon around the site, where full attention was being given to the wishes of the refugee community. For more see <http://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/middle-east/irish-men-help-rebuild-life-in-lebanese-refugee-camp-1.2933360>

CCR AGM - On 6th February a packed Fletcher Room saw the Annual Accounts approved for transmission to presbytery, and Randal Gray, the Hon. Treasurer, thanked for his continuous hard work during the year. Copies of the Accounts are available on request from Mr Gray. Reports from the Session, & Committee including the Property and Halls letting sub-committees were heard and approved with thanks to their members. The Youth and Family Worker presented an encouraging report from the youth and family sub-

Committee and the Junior Church noting increased attendances, and making suggestions for the future. Simon was thanked for his creative ideas. Reports from the uniformed organisations using the church's buildings were heard and it was hoped that better communication between them and the congregation could be developed. The interim Moderator indicated that the Congregation would be asked to approve a change in the way we looked for a Minister, by asking the Congregation to appoint a Hearing Committee, which could encourage applications, and which would take on decision-making responsibilities. Such a Committee would work deliberately and might not succeed in finding a new Minister until the early autumn. Questions and comments were heard. An EGM would be called to accept this proposal and appoint the Committee's members after the formal acceptance of a new voters list. The Session Clerk's 18 years of service were warmly appreciated.

Online/website edition of CCR Bulletin - supplement: Some additional information about future Rathgar/Terenure Fellowship events, the Explorers, and the letters of thanks from Liam Byrne of Crosscare can be found in the website/online edition www.christchurchrathgar.org

Bulletin Editor's Details - Email address: bulletineditor@christchurchrathgar.org
Let's hear from you! Suggestions for those needing our prayers especially welcome. Robin Simmons's phone number will be found in the Phonebook. **NB** Copy deadline for April Bulletin - Thursday 30th March, to appear on Sunday 2nd April.

CHRIST CHURCH RATHGAR ONLINE BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT - March 2017

1. Rathgar/Terenure Fellowship - LENTEN LECTURE SERIES

Christianity - From where I'm sitting - *Wednesday nights, commencing Wed. 1st March Wed. 5th April inclusive.* At Rathgar Methodist Church, Brighton Road, Rathgar, 8 pm

1st March **Senator David Norris** - After a distinguished academic career in TCD both as student and Joycean Scholar, he received an Honorary Doctorate in 2015. David Norris became a Senator in 1987, and is now the longest-serving member of that House. He was a Presidential candidate in 2011. He has twice served on the Board of St. Patrick's Cathedral. His main current areas of concern are national and international human and civil rights, equality issues concerning the LGBT community and architectural conservation.

Nominated charity: Capuchin Day Centre Bow Street

8th March **Gordon Linney** - Worked in banking prior to ordination in 1969. After serving as a curate in Northern Ireland, he returned to Dublin, at first to the Liberties, then becoming Rector of St. Paul's Glenageary. Appointed Archdeacon of Dublin in 1988, he served on the Standing Committee of the General Synod, and the Executive Committee of the Representative Church Body. A regular contributor to various media, his latest book *Thinking Aloud* is a selection of his Irish Times columns on religious topics. He retired in 2004.

Nominated Charity : The Alice Leahy Trust - a social and health Service for the Homeless.

15th March **Patsy McGarry** - A graduate of UCG, his varied student life involved drama and journalism. He taught briefly before becoming a journalist at first in independent

radio, setting up the first independent radio newsroom, then in print media. In the 1990s he worked with the Irish Press and the Sunday Independent before joining the Irish Times, where he has been the Religious Affairs correspondent since 1997.

Nominated Charity : The Alice Leahy Trust - a social and health Service for the Homeless.

22nd March **Kieran O'Mahony OSA** - an Augustinian Friar and Biblical scholar who became a specialist in Pauline studies, he taught for more than 20 years in the Milltown Institute for Theology and Philosophy. Now he works for the Archdiocese of Dublin as Co-ordinator of Biblical Studies. His current projects and recent publications may be investigated at www.tarsus.ie When not involved with St Paul, he relaxes with friends, walking, cycling and enjoying music and history.

Nominated charity: The Peter McVerry Trust - working to improve the circumstances of young homeless people.

29th March **Gillian Kingston** - From Cork and a long-time Methodist Lay Preacher, she was the first Lay Leader of the Methodist Church in Ireland. She works currently on the UCD Chaplaincy team, and is Vice-President of the World Methodist Council. Describing herself as an enthusiastic ecumenist she contributes regularly to the monthly Methodist Newsletter on Interchurch issues.

Nominated charity: Christian Aid - tackling the causes and effects of poverty worldwide.

5th April **Fiona Murdoch** - an eclectic Christian who has enjoyed worship with various denominations over the years, but returned to the Society of Friends where she is an Elder of the Rathfarnham Quaker Meeting. Her interest in Celtic Christianity led to her travelling many Irish pilgrim paths - drawn to Christian mysticism and meditation she also enjoys retreats at Glenstal Abbey and Ards Friary. A graduate of TCD and the University of Wales, she has written for papers and magazines on both sides of the Irish Sea, and has had three books published by Veritas. She was communications officer of Eco-Congregation Ireland, and currently plays the same role with Irish Girl Guides.

Nominated charity: VITA - a small charity fighting hunger and climate change in Africa.

Later - ECUMENICAL BIBLE WEEK

June 4th - 11th Events to be linked to the 500th anniversary of Luther's Reformation

We hope very much that you will be able to support as many as possible of these events.

Churches connected in the Rathgar/Terenure Fellowship Group, *Churches working together in the Unity of the Spirit:*

CHRIST CHURCH RATHGAR (Presbyterian)
CHURCH OF THE THREE PATRONS (Catholic)
CHURCHTOWN SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
RATHGAR METHODIST CHURCH
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, TERENURE (Catholic)
THE SALVATION ARMY
ZION PARISH (Church of Ireland)

2. The Explorers are an informal ecumenical group based in Sandymount and environs, who gather to read Scripture together.

You are most welcome to join us for the 2016-2017 season, during which we will be exploring Paul's Letter to the Romans

For further information, please contact Anngret Simms (269 4374). Paul's Letter to the Romans: eight evening gatherings. We will be meeting again this year in the Community Room of the Mount Tabor Care Centre, Sandymount Green, next to Christ Church. We meet from 7.30 - 9.00 pm, beginning and ending promptly. All evenings will be led by Kieran O'Mahony, OSA

Remaining meetings:

Monday, 20 March 2017 Conclusion: Romans 15.7-33; 16

Monday, 24 April 2017 Romans for today's church

Dr Kieran J O'Mahony, O.S.A. is Biblical Studies Coordinator, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Dublin.

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

The Community Room is used for residents' activities during the day, and is available for wider community use in the evenings. We are grateful to the Director, Ms Jane Butler, and to the Dublin Central Mission of the Methodist Church for their hospitality.

3. Copy of letter of thanks from Crosscare. - on "page" below:

Christ Church Rathgar
Rathgar Road

Dear Mr Gray and Friends,

Once again, let me say **thank you** so much for your very generous collection and donation of monies/food to Crosscare Food Bank Tallaght received Dec 2016.

The massive problem still facing many families especially over the Christmas period is that of food poverty. We at Crosscare try to address these problems by providing families with essential food items and Christmas hampers allowing them to simply survive and try to enjoy a little of the spirit of Christmas over this very costly period.

But as you are aware we do rely on donations and your extremely generous donation brought a smile to many faces and filled the hearts and homes of many families with the spirit of Christmas.

So once again let me say **thank you** on **their behalf** because your generosity has made a big difference.

Kind Regards



Liam Byrne
Food Bank Coordinator

086 7709472

liambyrne@crosscare.ie

Crosscare's work is guided by three core values: Love, Respect, and Excellence.

Registered Charity Number CHY 6262
