

SERVICES

May 7th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd Lorraine Kennedy Ritchie
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Revd Lorraine Kennedy Ritchie
May 14th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd James Carson
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Revd James Carson
May 21st	9.30 am	Christian Aid Breakfast	
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Revd David Bruce
May 28th	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	Marianne Knoetze
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Marianne Knoetze

Elders on Duty Gary Tennant

Stewards Carol Ormiston Esmonde Marina Proseckina Alan Warnock

Flowers 7th May Elspeth Haren 14th May Jessie Jenkinson
21st May Janet Lauder 28th May Jenny Gray

The Church Committee will meet on 9th May at 8pm in the Fletcher Room.

Ascension Day falls this year on May 25th. The Ascension represents Christ's full resumption of His Divine glory after fulfilling His mission on earth, resuming His place at the Father's side in heaven, from which He shall return again in glory at the end of time. Originally associated closely with Pentecost, the 50th Day after Easter, Ascension signifies the imminent coming of the Holy Spirit, the divine advocate and counsellor who guides the church and Christians as the incarnate Jesus had done. To be the embodiment of God's love to others is now **our** calling, an obligation both serious and joyful. It is not easy for us to make sense of transcendence, but sometimes the boundaries of our secular short-term world lift and we experience a glimpse of the glorious majesty of God's reality, in beauty, in grandeur, in love, in forgiveness, or in self-sacrifice and we can have faith in the ultimate reality of the world beyond the common-place, to which we will all be called when Christ the King returns.

PRAYER and congregational news: We thank God for the unanimous decision of the congregation at the recent EGM to extend a call to **Revd Peter Purvis Campbell** and that this will be presented to the Presbytery of East Belfast. We pray that Purvis will soon be installed as our Minister and that the congregation may flourish under his care as we work together for the glory of His kingdom in this place. We pray for **Alice B.** and her husband and carer **Eric** that Alice's condition may improve, and that they both may be strengthened by their faith and experience of God's gracious and loving support. We ask your continuing prayer for **Audrey S.** whose rehabilitation from a serious stroke continues in the Ruttle Ward at Tallaght hospital. Please pray also for **Alice G.** who recently underwent a day procedure to extend the range of movement of her right arm. We are glad that all is going well for our member who is experiencing Radiotherapy and pray for the continuing success of his treatment. **The Session Clerk** is happy to thank God for the birth of his third grandchild Daniel Andrew Fry on 13th April, and **we pray** for the happiness of Daniel and his parents. We were pleased on Easter Sunday to see **John Whyte** back for a break from the Lebanon.

The Golf Outing and Fellowship Dinner was a very enjoyable and successful event. The

cup was won by Ruth Ward, and 50 of us enjoyed a very festive meal, our warm feelings still happily celebrating the events of the EGM. All enjoyed a happy singsong led by Alison on her ukulele and Simon on his guitar. Great work was done in preparation by Alison Houston and Jennifer Moffett. Encore to the whole event! **An appreciation by Paul Fry online.**

The Explorers Bible Study group tell us that next season they will be looking at St. John's Gospel, again under the leadership of Dr Kieran O'Mahony OSA on the 3rd Monday of the months from September 2017 to April. 2018.

Lenten Lectures- the total given in Retiring Collections was over €3500, and Vanessa Wyse Jackson of Rathgar Methodist Church is most grateful for the generosity shown. **Details online.**

Christian Aid - Retiring Collection for South Sudan Famine appeal raised €765, and those who contributed deserve hearty thanks for their wonderful generosity.

Christian Aid week - A Christian Aid Breakfast will once more be organized by Randal and Jenny Gray at 9.30 am on Sunday 21st May. This was great fun last year; please come and give generously. Please sign a list in church if you would like to come (or help) so that numbers may be estimated.

Ecumenical Bible Week - an event will take place in CCR on **Tuesday 6th June.7.30 - 9.00pm.** Rev Dr Maurice Elliott of the Church of Ireland Theological Institute, Braemor Road will speak on Mark - The Fullness of the Gospel - A re-visiting of the teaching of Mark. Please support this event and welcome our visitors warmly. **More information on EBW online.**

Notes from Committee April 11th - Property -A well-attended committee approved works estimated at over €1000 to repair rot in the Vestry Toilet, at €15000 to soundproof the Orwell Hall, and at possibly as much as €50000 to remedy dampness in the North-east corner of the church. The extent of this damage could not be estimated until the works were in process. Electronically controlled vents would be installed between the Lecture Hall and the church. A repair to the Manse garage door was required and the carpet on the stairs of the Tennant Hall needed repair, and the common areas repainting. The Session had agreed to provide secure, fireproof storage in the vestry for computers and church documents, and plans and costings would be provided. Negotiations with our insurance firm were proceeding as a result of our improved fire precautions, and to cover cooking by the youth group. Other matters are covered elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Online/website edition of CCR Bulletin - supplement: Some additional information about the CCR Golf outing, the retiring collections at RTF Lenten Lectures and Ecumenical Bible Week can be found in the website/online edition **www.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 June Bulletin - Thursday 1st June, to appear on Sunday 4th June.

1. CCR Golf outing - Impressions of Paul Fry, Clerk of Session

"On 28 April 2017, 17 golfers convened at the beautiful Rathfarnham Golf Club by kind permission of their Committee and reactivated the Rathgar Golf Outing after a gap 25 years! Using the 'Singles Stableford' format, the first golfers set out at 1pm. The weather was cool but dry and favoured the players with benign conditions. All players enjoyed the day and congratulations to the overall winner of the cup, Ms Ruth Ward, with 34 points, Mr Robin Fraser in second place with 33 points and the Clerk, Paul Fry, coming home in third place with 29 points. The 'Front 9' prize was won by Tom Collins, and the 'Back 9' by Marcella Sargent.

The day's golf was followed by a delicious dinner in the Club, which saw the golfers joined by 33 other members of the congregation making a full 50 to sit down and break bread together. We were joined by our guests, Revd Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie and her husband Samuel, as well as Revd Jim Carson and his wife, Valerie. Following the dinner, we enjoyed a short but enjoyable singalong led by Alison Houston and Simon O'Moore-Donahoe on ukulele and guitar respectively. All thanks must go to Alison Houston who came up with the concept for the day, and saw it through to fruition in some style."

2 Rathgar/Terenure Fellowship - LENTEN LECTURE SERIES

From Revd Vanessa Wyse Jackson - Rathgar Methodist Church

A very warm word of thanks to all those who attended the series of seven Lenten evening talks in Rathgar Methodist Church. The retiring collections every Wednesday evening in aid of the speakers' nominated charities were most generously supported and all of the speakers wish to express their sincerest thanks to all involved.

Brother Kevin at the Capuchin Day Centre	€577.30
The Alice Leahy Trust (first collection)	€548.50
God's Storehouse in Tallaght Methodist Church	€481.00
The Peter McVerry Trust	€367.00
Christian Aid	€550.00
Vita	€586.00
The Alice Leahy Trust (second collection)	€422.00

In addition, €55.80 was raised for the church in the Gambia through the sale of palm crosses in the foyer. Thank you all very much for your support.

And our thanks to Vanessa and her assistants for the organization of this excellent and well-supported series.

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)**

3 ECUMENICAL BIBLE WEEK

June 4th - 11th 2017

Events are linked to the 500th anniversary of Luther's Reformation - The theme is- **Faith comes from hearing the word of Christ.** All information at www.bibleweekie

Local events Rathgar/ Terenure

1 Event at CCR - Tuesday June 6th 7.30 to 9pm

The Gospel in all its Fullness: A re-visiting of the teaching of Mark
Rev Dr Maurice Elliott Director Church of Ireland Theological Institute

2 Scripture Reflection using the Small/Basic Christian Community Approach

June 7 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm - St Joseph's Church, 6 Terenure Road East, Dublin 6.

Presenter: Andrew Fanthom

3 What would Jesus Tweet Š ? The Gospel in 140 Characters

June 8 @ 7.30 pm - 9:00 pm - Friends Meeting House, 82 Churchtown Road Lower, Dublin

14. **Presenter: Jonny Sommerville**

Core events –

Opening Event Sunday 4th June - 7.30 - 9.00pm - Lutherhaus Adelaide Road Dublin 2

Sung Lutheran Vespers

Free event; online booking necessary

SYMPOSIUM 2017

"The Joint Declaration on Justification: its significance and potential"

Presenter: Prof. Tony Lane

"How should we remember the Reformation?" Presenter: Prof. Salvador Ryan

Chair: Archbishop Michael Jackson of Dublin and Glendalough

When? 9 June, 2.00-5.00 pm;

Where? Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe.

Online Booking for this Symposium - €10 charge

Book: <http://www.bibleweek.ie/online-registration-form-symposium-2017>

More information: <http://www.bibleweek.ie/symposium-2017>

THINKING ALLOWED: Is the Reformation over?

WHEN? 9 June 7.30-9.00 pm.

WHERE? Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe.

No charge; no booking necessary.

Presenter 1: Very Rev William Morton / Church of Ireland, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral

Presenter 2: Pastor Nick Park / Evangelical Alliance, Solid Rock Church

Presenter 3: Dr Geraldine Smyth OP / Roman Catholic, Adjunct Associate Professor in Irish School of Ecumenics

Presenter 4: Rev Vanessa Wyse Jackson / Methodist Church

Chair: Philip McKinley / Church of Ireland Chaplain in Dublin City University

More information: <http://www.bibleweek.ie/thinking-allowed>

Closing Event

Sunday 11th June - 7.30 - 9.00pm - Lutherhaus Adelaide Road Dublin 2

Film and Reflection Led by Revd Dr Kieran O'Mahony

Film: Martin Luther - Heretic (BBC 1983)

Entrance free - No booking necessary