

SERVICES

November 6th	9.30 am	Early Morning Worship	Marianne Knoetze	
	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Marianne Knoetze	
November 13th	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Revd. Jim Carson	
	11.00 am	Morning Worship with Remembrance Ceremony	Revd. Jim Carson	
November 20th	11.00 am	Preaching for the post	First candidate	
November 27th	11.00 am	Preaching for the post	Second candidate	
Elders on Duty	David Walsh	Stewards	Randal Robertson	
	Anne Walsh		Ruth Ward	
Flower Rota	6th November	Kate Warnock	13th November	Ruth Ward
	20th November	Wilma Ormiston	27th November	Kate Warnock

Vacancy: We welcome two candidates to CCR to preach for the post of Minister of this congregation later in November, and are grateful for their applications. There will be no early morning service on these two Sundays. **We pray that the Holy Spirit** may guide and support the candidates so that they may fairly show their abilities to lead this congregation in the path that we should travel. **We also pray that the Spirit** may grant wisdom and right discernment to the voting members of the congregation as they make their decisions in choosing the Minister God intends to lead us forward in our future witness to God's boundless grace, love and mercy towards His creation and His people.

At this time (All Saints) when the church universal remembers the devotion of the members of Christ's visible body to their service of proclaiming the Gospel in all places and at all times, **we pray for the other churches in this area and in our land**, remembering especially the Romanian Baptist congregation of the Holy Trinity who share our premises, and also those churches to which our family and friends may belong and those active in the Rathgar-Terenure Fellowship and we pray that being grafted together into the life of the True Vine all may bear rich fruit in God's service. **We remember in our prayers the churches abroad**, Reformed, Orthodox and Catholic, especially those suffering persecution as a result of their faithful witness. We note Pope Francis's recent visit to Lund in Sweden to join the start of Lutheran celebrations of 500 years of the Reformation, and pray that such signs of reconciliation between divided traditions may be a sign to all of the power of the Risen Christ.

We are sad to note the recent death of two people with connections to this church, the florist **James Baillie**, who became a member of Sandymount Congregation, and **Margaret McDowell**, widow of Revd William McDowell, our interim Moderator during our previous vacancy. **We thank God** for their lives of faithful service and express our sympathy to their friends and families. Our lives are the poorer for their loss.

We congratulate Soo-Jung and DK on the birth of their daughter **Lee-Ann**, and pray that God will bless them and their families in every way throughout their lives. We look forward to seeing Lee-Ann join her brother Joo-Ann in CCR. **We also pray that Olive Eaton**, who has moved to a nursing home in Saggart, settles happily into her new home, and that God may bless **Mervyn** and the rest of the family at this time.

Christmas Fair The Christmas Fair is being held on **Saturday 19th November**, 10 am to 2pm. Please give your support to this fundraising event in whatever way you can, either by attending on the day or helping in a practical manner. Donations of goods are requested for the following stalls: Tea and Coffee, Cakes, Deli, Books, Jewellery & Bags, Toys, Sweets, Bric-a-Brac. All second-hand items should be in reasonable/saleable condition. Donated items may be brought down to the hall on the previous night, Friday 18th, between 7 and 9 o'clock, or on the Saturday morning. There will be a limited number of Craft stallholders in the Orwell hall. If you have any queries please contact Armand Flack at 087 6899598.

Many thanks to Jill McQuillan, Carol Esmonde, and all those who worked with them, including the leaders of church organizations, to decorate the church so very beautifully **for the Harvest Festival** last month. The Tallaght Food Bank and the Rathmines Women's Refuge benefitted from the distribution of edible decorations.

At the Church Committee meeting on 11th October, those who have served for three years retired, and it was decided that fresh elections would be held in 2017 under a new structure, details to be finalised. The same logo will be displayed in the back porch as in the front one. Work continues to help the Committee take the right decisions about an improved audio system for the church and the urgency of maintenance for the Geddes window. It was suggested that pull cords might enable the elders on duty to close and re-open the airvents at the windows of the church before and after services. The next committee meeting will be held on December 6th, 8pm Fletcher Room.

CAROLS FOR ALL - This year's ecumenical Christmas celebration will take place on **Friday 9th December at 7pm in CCR**. Please make a note in your diary **now** to join in the fun, organised by the Rathgar-Terenure Fellowship and hosted by Christ Church Rathgar.

The Explorers, a Sandymount-based ecumenical group who read the Scriptures together, are this year **Reading Romans Together** under the leadership of **Dr Kieran O'Mahony OSA**, the well-known Biblical scholar. The next meeting on Monday 21st November will examine **Romans Ch 1-4 - the need of Grace**. Meetings take place in the Community Room of the Mount Tabor Care Centre, Sandymount Green, and begin at 7.30 sharp.

Website edition of CCR Bulletin - supplement: Some additional information about the Explorers' programme, and Pope Francis's visit to Lund can be found in the on-line edition of this Bulletin 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. Copy deadline for December Bulletin-Thursday 24th November-to appear Sunday 27th November.

**ONLINE BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT CHRIST CHURCH RATHGAR
NOVEMBER 2016**

1. This website has an account of the Pope's statement in Lund, and the Lutheran reply, given by the General Secretary of the World Lutheran Federation Dr Martin Junge. From the website of Boston College (Jesuit), this is a brief edited extract - more from the website itself. Crux appears to be a quarterly periodical published by Boston College <https://cruxnow.com/papal-visit/2016/10/31/pope-sweden-heaps-praise-luther-no-breakthrough-communion/>

The following are only a few of the Pope's words: The question that haunted Martin Luther about God's mercy is "the decisive question of our lives," while the doctrine of justification "expresses the essence of human existence before God," Pope Francis told a joint Catholic-Lutheran gathering in Lund, Sweden today.(31st October 2016)

Francis's words at a joint prayer service at the city's eleventh-century cathedral to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Luther's protest at Wittenberg in 1517 are the most positive yet. The joint commemoration is designed to encourage reception of the 1999 agreement between Lutherans and Roman Catholics on the Theology of Justification

He also spoke in unprecedented terms of both sides in the Reformation divide professing and upholding "the true faith."

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 Annagret 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

Monday, 19 September 2016	Christianity in Rome: Romans 1.1-17
Monday, 17 October 2016	The letter as a whole: Romans 1-16
Monday, 21 November 2016	Need of grace: Romans 1-4
Monday, 12 December 2016	Gift of grace: Romans 5-8
Monday, 16 January 2017	Jews and Gentiles: Romans 9-11
Monday, 20 February 2017	Grace in practice: Romans 12.1-15.6
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.