

January 2022



Parish of Our lady &
St John, Carrigaline.

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Charity CHY 7112
Office 10.00 – 1.00 Mon – Fri

Emergencies: 087 2302108

Sacristy: 087 4410599

Note: A priest is available every Monday night in the sacristy from 7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m

A New Road for a New Year!

'You never go wrong when you take the high road – it's less crowded up there' (Gayle King)

A new year always bring a sense of hope and excitement to all of our lives. As we look back and reflect on the past year, we are grateful for the people who have walked with us on the journey and made a difference in our lives. We look forward, to a 'clean slate' in 2022 so that we can begin afresh and embrace the present moment as it unfolds, knowing that yesterday has been revealed and tomorrow is untold.

The writer CS Lewis remained hopeful by believing that *'there are far better things ahead than any we leave behind.'*

Likewise, the poet Ralph Waldo Emerson was of the same mind: *'write in your heart that every day is the best day of the year.'*

Of course there is always the temptation to stay with the familiar and crawl back into bed, so to speak, and pull up the covers, but Epiphany with all its emphasis of light – the light of Christ who has come into our lives at Christmas – shining in the darkness, opens up new roads, new opportunities and challenges to be the people God wants us to be.

As we live in very uncertain and difficult times, we wonder if things will ever again be the same or when we will ever again get back to normality. However, we do know that God is over all and in the bits and pieces of everyday life as we place our hope and trust in him especially during these uncertain times.

With the artist Von Goethe, one of our new year resolutions could be as follows:

'One ought every day at least, to hear a little song, read a good poem, see a fine picture and if possible, to speak a few reasonable words.'

Like Von Goethe, we realise that every new day is an opportunity for a fresh start and that every sunrise is a new chapter in our lives waiting to be written. But we have to decide to do so!

With courage, together we face the future, with hope in our hearts and sunrise in God's new dawn as we pray:

May hope dwell in our hearts and may that sunrise, the light of Christ, shine brightly on each of us as we journey together on the new road we will be travelling upon this new year. Amen

Fr. Pat Fogarty P.P.

New Year Blessing

May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant us peace.

May He pour out his blessing in abundance and keep us safe from harm throughout the year.

May He give us integrity in the faith, endurance in hope and perseverance in love.

May He who has called us out of darkness into his wonderful light, pour out his kindness and blessing upon each one of us.

May the Spirit of God guide and direct us in our lives and work and may we be messengers of joy and hope for all those we meet.

We make our prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Baptisms in December

We welcome you to our Christian Family:



Finn Grace,
Harlow Claire Anne
O'Donovan,
Jake Conor O'Keeffe,
Charlie George Crowley,
Tadhg Liam O'Sullivan,

Phoebe Jane Coley O'Leary,
Summer Noelle Crowley,
Ellie Angela Cleary,
Liam John Busher,
Jack Patrick Hanlon,
Fiadh Eileen O'Broin,
Benjamin Michael Sheehan,
Louis James O'Regan,
Eoghan Ronayne,
Skye Suzanne Wiley.

December Marriages

We wish you every
blessing, joy and
happiness:



AimeeKate Loughnane and Tom Grace;
Samantha O'Keeffe and Aaron Kavanagh;
Caroline Creagh and Richard Barry.

Deaths

We remember and pray for those who have
died. May they rest in peace:



Betty Purcell,
Declan Cross,
Connie May,
Ber Madden.



Catholic Schools Week 2022

Catholic Schools Week is celebrated from the
24th – 31st January.



Catholic Schools
Week 2022
January 30-February 5

The theme this year
is: '*Catholic Schools:
Living in Harmony
with God's
Creation.*'

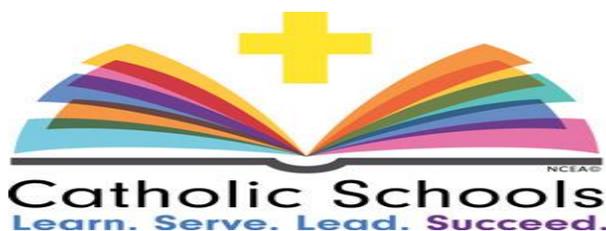
During this week,
families, parishes and
schools are invited to participate in a week of
celebration of Catholic Schools and on their
contribution to the common good of our
society and to the Mission of the Church
which is to preach the Gospel.
Catholic schools, as part of the faith
community, are inspired by the Gospel which
underpins all they do and Catholic Schools
Week highlights this in a very meaningful and
real way.

This year's theme encourages us to see that
we all have a responsibility to care for the
earth as our common home as Pope Francis
reminded us in *Laudato Si*.

Catholic Schools Week helps to make us all
more aware of the very important role,
however small, each one of us has in bringing
about change that can have a big impact on
the care of our common home.

Each day during the week, has a different
theme within the overall theme:

- Monday: Living in Harmony with God
- Tuesday: Living in Harmony with our Neighbours
- Wednesday: Living in Harmony with all Generations
- Thursday: Living in Harmony with the Earth
- Friday: Living in Harmony with our Catholic School



Celebrating the Season of Creation in 2021



The Season of Creation has a special significance for the Catholic Church, particularly since Pope Francis established 1 September as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The Season of Creation or Creation Time, is marked

throughout the Christian world from the 1st September to 4th October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment.

The Care of the Earth Parish Group was involved in many activities throughout 2021

- We celebrated *Laudato Si'* Week in May and created a display near our altar.
- Our church grass was dedicated to 'No Mow May' so we could let the garden continue to be a biodiverse ground for all of God's creatures.
- We encouraged the 'All Ireland Pollinator Plan' on the parish Facebook page.
- We contributed feedback to the Cork County Council, Carrigaline Transportation and Public Realm Enhancement Plan.

- As part of our Season of Creation celebrations in September, we encouraged parishioners to sign up to the '*Healthy Planet, Healthy People*' (www.thecatholicpetition.org) petition in advance of the UN COP 26 Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in November 2021.
- Father Pat blessed a silver birch, which was planted as a '*Laudato Si*' tree in our parish garden to remember our commitment to care for God's creation and for future generations to come.



- We also wrote a prayer:

Praise be to you, Creator of all things. Come to us Lord and plant the seeds of compassion in our hearts and grant our local and worldwide leaders wisdom to make the changes we need to see so that your earth and your people can thrive as you planned. Reach out your loving arms to all your brothers and sisters and renew our love for you, our fragile planet, and all living creatures. Grant us peace in our hearts as we remain hopeful for change. Guide us with presence as we continue to commit ourselves to work for climate justice.

**Laudato Si' – Latin for 'Praised Be' - is the name of Pope Francis' encyclical on caring for our common home – planet earth. Available in Veritas for 5 euro or free to download on the Vatican website.*

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

18th – 25th January 2022



The Christians of the Middle East choose the theme this year, taken from the second chapter of the Gospel of St Matthew, which is the Epiphany – ‘We saw the star in the

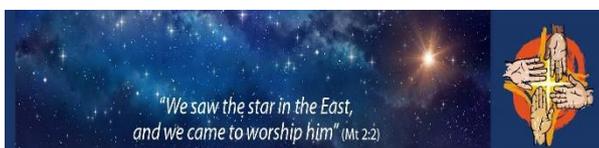
East, and we came to worship Him.’

More than ever in these challenging and uncertain times we need a light that shines in the darkness of our lives and that light has been manifested in Christ.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was first observed in January 1908. Known then as the Church Unity Octave, it was celebrated in the chapel of a small Atonement Franciscan Convent of the Protestant Episcopal Church, on a remote hillside fifty miles from New York City. This soon caught the imagination of others far beyond the Franciscan Convent, becoming an energetic, annual worldwide observance involving many nations and millions of people.

The power of prayer in solidarity with the whole world is a demonstration of Christian Unity and a sign of communion. Hearts are touched as Christians come together to pray for Unity.

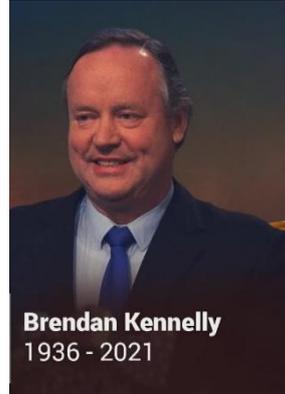
Ecumenism is the movement for helping to achieve Christian Unity throughout the world. Over the years, divisions have arisen within Christianity which has resulted in a number of different denominations. Ecumenism endeavours to overcome these divisions, bringing about Christian Unity.



Prolific Poet, Author and Nobelist

Brendan Kennelly passes away

One of Ireland’s best known Irish scholar, poet and writer, Brendan Kennelly, passed away in October 2021 at the age of 85 years.



His contribution to Irish literature was immense and his genius was especially evident in his poetry which people loved to hear him recite.

He wrote over 20 books of poetry and one of his best loved poems was probably

the poem “Begin”.

“Though we live in a world that dreams
of ending
that always seems about to give in
something that will not acknowledge
conclusion
insists that we forever begin.”
- Brendan Kennelly, ‘Begin’

“I’VE LEARNED THAT PEOPLE WILL FORGET
WHAT YOU SAID, PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT
YOU DID, BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET
HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL.”

MAYA ANGELOU

