



## MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

### DEAR PARISHIONER

We hope that you will find something of interest in this Newsletter. On the other hand we do understand that the enclosed Raffle Tickets do not fall into that category! We don't think there is anyone who likes getting tickets but as always we are asking you to do your best to sell what you can, contribute what you can—the proceeds of the Raffle contribute a large percentage of the income of the Garden Fete and you will see from the Treasurer's notes that, as always, we have a lot of calls on our income. Please return money and stubs to the church on Sundays, by mail to the church or to the Fete on the day.

There is more information about Fete arrangements later in the Newsletter— slightly different this year as there is no Rector in residence. We thank you in advance for any help you can give.

*The Select Vestry*

### FAREWELL

This time last year Gary wrote a long piece for the start of the Summer Newsletter. Since then we have said goodbye to Gary and Cairiona and thanked them both for all their work here in Galway over the past 9 years. We presented them with a cheque for €3,250 at the Farewell Potluck Lunch – thank you to all those who contributed.

Some Galway parishioners made their way on Friday April 20<sup>th</sup> to Holy Trinity, Killiney, to attend Gary's Institution as Rector of that parish and we can report that they are settling into the Rectory there and enjoying getting to know their new parishioners.

### THE WAY FORWARD

Many have been inquiring as to when we will have a new rector and how one is chosen. The Church of Ireland lays down in the Constitution how a new Rector is appointed to a parish. You will find all the legalities in Chapter 4 of the Constitution available on the internet - (<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/Information/Constitution/constitution.pdf>).

In short the Bishop advertises the fact that the parish is vacant and those interested are provided with details of the parish and make it known to the Board of Nomination that they are interested in the position. The Board of Nomination is made up of the Bishop, 4 members of the clergy in our Diocese, one lay person from our diocese and four Parochial Nominators. The Diocesan reps are elected at Diocesan Synod and the Parochial Nominators are elected at the Parish Easter Vestry meeting – 3 representing Galway and one representing Kilcummin. The formal proceedings cannot begin until the outgoing Rector is instituted to his/her new parish as, until that happens, they are legally the Rector of the first parish. The proceedings at meetings of the Board of Nomination are confidential. Those members of the clergy who put themselves forward as being interested may be asked to meet with the parochial nominators and indeed with the Diocesan nominators and following investigation, fact finding,

discussion and prayer the new Rector is decided by vote. If the Board of Nomination fails to agree following three votes the role of appointing a new rector falls to the Bishop.

We wish our nominators all the best as they seek to find someone new for Galway and Kilcummin and ask you to remember them in your prayers.

### IN THE MEANTIME

Oversight of the parish has been given to the Dean of Tuam, Alistair Grimason, and some of you will have already met him and indeed enjoyed his singing of 'All in an April evening' during his first sermon. We welcome Alistair to Galway and thank him for his care of the parish during the interregnum.

You may be interested in learning a little more about Alistair and so he writes:

*'I was born in 1957 in Dungannon, a middle sized market town in County Tyrone and grew up a member of St Anne's Parish, properly known as Drumglass, in the same town. I went to the local primary school and received my secondary education in The Royal School Dungannon. I then attended Trinity College Dublin where I did most of my Ministerial Training (as well as many other very interesting and enjoyable things ) and graduated in 1979.*

*My first placement was a 6 month stint as a lay chaplain to Craigavon Area Hospital near Portadown with some general parish assistant work in Seagoe Parish.*

*I was made deacon by Bishop Arthur Butler on St. Thomas' Day, 21st December 1979 and ordained priest the following year. For the next 3 years I served as curate assistant in the parish of Joanmount in North Belfast.*

*My second curacy was served in Dublin's North Inner City in the parish of North Strand and Drumcronda with St. Barnabas.*

*In 1984 I was appointed incumbent of Navan Union of Parishes in the Diocese of Meath and Kildare. Then in 1990 I moved to be incumbent of Tullamore Union of Parishes also in Meath and Kildare. In April 2000 I took up my present appointment of Incumbent of Tuam, Cong and Aasleagh and was installed Dean of Tuam. I was subsequently installed Dean of Killala and Achonry in 2013.*

*During my time in Holy Orders I have served on Standing Committee, The Representative Church Body, General Synod, Priorities Allocations Committee, Central Communications Board, Pioneer Ministry Steering Group as well as every diocesan committee in both the diocese of Meath and Kildare and TKA. I was also a member of the Chapter of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin for almost 10 years.*

*I was married to Vivienne for 28 years until her death in 2008. I have 5 daughters, two grandchildren, 2 cats and a dog. My passion is angling. Mostly salmon and trout angling. I also love rugby ( watching...my playing days are long over! ), cricket, travelling to places where the sun shines ( mostly France ), camping, messing about in my boat on Corrib and eating rich and very unhealthy ( but delicious ) food. I also sing a bit, play the occasional guitar and read voraciously....everything from Bill Bryson to Voltaire to Conan Doyle to Camus.'*

*Alistair Grimason (Phone: 085 2821073)*

## **ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS MADE AT THE EASTER GENERAL VESTRY MEETING 2018**

Rector's Churchwarden: Gráinne Walsh  
People's Churchwarden: Paul Adams  
Rector's Glebewarden: Maria Murphy  
People's Glebewarden: Anne Nethaway

### **Members of the Select Vestry:**

Olive Maher, Katerina Kubecka, Ray Plummer, Robert LeGresley, Catherine M. Temple, Rachel Latey, Christine Hunt, Denzil Auchmuty, Paddy Delaney, Paul Hardy, Heather Pope (Treasurer), Ann Walton (Secretary).

### **FROM THE TREASURER**

As always, thanks to all of you who contribute so generously to the parish of St Nicholas. We are a busy place with ongoing projects planned again for this summer - having secured more funding from Galway City Council under the Built Heritage Investment and Structures at Risk Schemes, phase 2 of the railings' conservation and continuing works on the clock faces and tower will continue. St Nicholas' will have to provide additional funding to the grants, but this has been included in the 2018 budget. The trees in the Rectory garden were given some TLC in January - at a cost of €11,000. It looks like we will have some upgrading works to do to the Rectory, prior to a new incumbant taking up residence - at present, anticipated costs are between €22,000 and €30,000. The tenants have moved out of No 77 Knocknacarra Park, so unfortunately for now, we're down income on that front. You can see that your continued support is badly needed and so we'd ask those who aren't currently contributing to consider joining the envelope or standing order schemes. Every little helps and if your annual contribution is €250 or more, we could claim back an additional 30% back in tax, giving your donation a huge boost! Just contact me 086 8336666 or email treasurer@stnicholas.ie for more information on the regular donation schemes. *Heather Pope*

### **WELCOME DESK**

The Welcome Desk contributes significantly to the income of the parish and it also presents a friendly face for our parish during the summer months and many thanks are due to all those who help to staff this.

It is proposed to hold an **Information Evening** on Monday May 14th for all who volunteer with the Desk and for anyone who would be interested in finding out more about what is involved. Light Refreshments will be had in a local hostelry following the meeting.

If you feel you could give any hours to the desk no matter how few it would be most appreciated. Attendance at the meeting is not essential. Training will be given. A normal stint lasts for 2 hours but there can be flexibility. For more information please contact Mary Liddy (mary.liddy@nuigalway.ie) or Gráinne Walsh (gw768@aol.com)

June 9th at 2pm in the Rectory garden. This is a major parish event and is always keenly anticipated by the wider Galway community. Please spread the word and bring your friends! There's face-painting, BBQ, teas and refreshments, ice-creams, crepes, Bouncy Castle, games, various stalls packed with tempting attractions and lots more besides, all set against the backdrop of St Patrick's Brass Band. However, we need lots of helpers both on the day to set up the stalls (and take them down), to help on the stalls themselves and to help on the days before the fete to sell tickets and to load tables and chairs, etc. If you could give of your time, however brief, please contact one of those named below. As always we are also looking for contributions for all the stalls: plants, produce, cakes, books, maps, toys, antiques and bric-a-brac, toy teddies, jewellery and other items of value. Please seek them out, asking neighbours and friends if they would like to contribute any unwanted items that are in good condition. Please do not bring any items that are in poor condition; we are often left with disposing of large amounts of useless 'tat' costing the parish financially in the process. Suitable items for sale should be left into the Rectory between 6pm and 9pm on Friday 8th and on the morning of the Fete but if this is not possible contact a member of the committee below. As already mentioned we are sending everyone on the parish list some raffle tickets that we hope can be sold. The money raised by the Fete is absolutely essential to the parish finances and the income from the sale of raffle tickets makes up a significant figure of the profits on the day. It is not easy for some parishioners to sell tickets, but your best efforts are always appreciated. Stubs and money can be returned to us any Sunday in church or posted to the church. Thank you in advance for doing your best.

**2018 Committee: Carol Steven, Maria Murphy, Olive Maher, Ann Walton, Gráinne Walsh..**

### **NEWS FROM THE SCHOLA CANTORUM**

Coffee concerts, Saturdays at 11am:

12th May: Mark Keane (piano) and Stephen Carroll (baritone)  
The Art of Song featuring music by Schumann, Quilter, Vaughan Williams and Donizetti.

26th May: Aisling Kenny (soprano), Ziv Braha (lute) and Collegium Myth and Legend (as part of the Galway Early Music Festival) featuring music by Dowland, Danyel, Morley, Byrd and Lassus

The Choristers once again feature in the Galway Early Music Festival with the Gregory Walkers, performing this year in the ballroom of the Meyrick Hotel at 5pm on Sunday 27th May.

The Schola Cantorum end of term is marked with two special services. At the Sung Eucharist on 17th June, there will be Admission and Valediction of Choristers, together with the annual prizegiving. And that afternoon at 5pm, the Parish Choir sings Evenson, with music by Rheinberger, Wood and Ireland.

Amidst the usual round of rehearsals and classes, there is a special group of people preparing for the Bronze and Silver Awards examinations of the Royal School of Church Music. We



### **SUMMER GARDEN FETE**

The Garden Fete takes place this year on

are fielding nine candidates this year, a mix of adults and children from both the Choristers and the Parish Choir. The examinations take place in June and July, and we wish them well!

#### ST. NICHOLAS' PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

We have a very busy Summer Term scheduled for the pupils.

Upcoming Events:

As part of Branar's Art Flag Programme, we have an artist coming to our school on six different dates during May and June to help the children plan, design and paint a mural on the wall in our playground.



**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May:** Carbon Talk with the senior classes  
Kickboxing

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May:** Workshop with Brendan from  
Seashore Safari

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May:** School Tours: Junior Infants – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
class are going to Brigit's Garden  
3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class are going to Bunratty  
Castle and Craggaunowen.

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May:**  
Active Week (activities include Hip hop,  
Gaelic Football, Drama/Dance, Soccer,  
Yoga, Walk a Mile with a Smile!)

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May:** 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> class going to Villiers School  
in Limerick for a Sports Day

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May:** Sports Day followed by a BBQ

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May:** Confirmation in St. Nicholas'  
Collegiate Church

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May:** Green Flag Awards for our 6<sup>th</sup> Green Flag  
for Global Citizenship, Litter and Waste

**Wed 30<sup>th</sup> May:** Swimming Gala in Leisureland

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June:** All classes are going on a Seashore Safari  
in Salthill

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June:** Summer Service in St. Nicholas' Collegiate  
Church

We say goodbye to sixth class and wish them well as they make the transition to their new Secondary Schools next September. As always, we are sad to see them go but also look forward to welcoming all the new pupils that will be starting in St. Nicholas' Parochial School. If you would like to make an enquiry about enrolling your child in school, please e-mail us on [galwayschool@gmail.com](mailto:galwayschool@gmail.com) or call 091-569233. You may also like to visit our website at [www.galwayschool.com](http://www.galwayschool.com)

We'd like to say a big thank you to all the wonderful parents in our school, who have contributed greatly to all our events and activities throughout the year. Their support is very much appreciated and we look forward to working together with you next year again.

**Wendy Walsh (Principal)**

#### CHARITIES

Holly Armstrong organised the knitting and distribution of chickens again this year. Well done Holly and friends. Last year this effort raised over €2,500 for the Galway Hospice. The figure for this year is not available to date. We also donated €422 for Tonga and Mission to Seafarers €218.76

#### MEDITATION

Paddy Delaney has been leading Meditation sessions in the Vestry at 7pm on Thursday evenings. Beginners are always welcome. If you are interested contact Paddy on 087 7821101.

#### CHATTY CRAFTERS

Our Chatty Crafters group meet on Thursday mornings (10am—12.30) in the side-chapel. If you knit, crochet, sew, embroider, make cards or do any other sort of craft and would be interested in joining the group do come along.

#### SUNDAY CLUB

Sunday Club, for children of primary school age, continues to take place in the Vestry every Sunday during term time, except for Bank Holiday weekends. The activities follow the Sunday readings in a fun and creative way using craft, drama and singing. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Sunday Club please contact Sally Cunningham.

The side chapel, which has the service piped in, is available to parents of younger children who might find the need to let off steam during the service!

#### MOTHERS' UNION

The Mothers' Union cake sale in February raised over €330 for the overseas development fund and on March 21<sup>st</sup> after the Lady Day celebration the annual collection of toiletries for Osterley Lodge was made and bags packed for the women in the refuge. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

A Diocesan service was held in Tubbercurry on Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup> there will be a Bring and Buy Sale and Tea Party at 2pm in the Bishop's House in Castlebar. Funds raised will go to the Mums in May Appeal which helps people both in Ireland and abroad.

If you are interested in joining the Mothers' Union or finding out more information please contact the secretary Heather Martin or the chairperson Sally Cunningham.

#### ST. NICHOLAS LADYBIRDS AND BROWNIES

The Ladybirds  
have been very  
busy organising



a Mothers Day Afternoon Tea Party for their moms, making Tiaras for their Princess Day, making Bird Feeders and learning how to put a plaster on their Teddies.

They earned their Fire Safety Badge and their Road Safety Badge.

We still have a lot more to do before we finish early in June.

We hope to finish with a Ladybird Day Out trip . Venue yet to be decided.

**The Brownies** have also been busy working on their Journey Programme.

They are learning about team work, life skills, global awareness, the outdoors and having fun.

They have made Fairy Doors, Easter Baskets, and a 3D Card for Mothers Day. We had an indoor campfire and they made SMORES.

We are going on Pack Holiday from Friday 15th to Saturday

16th June.

I urgently need volunteers to help me next year. If I do not get help St. Nicholas Ladybirds and Brownies will have to close.

This will be a great pity as the children get so much from this wonderful organisation. If you can help or would like more information about what is involved please phone me on

089 4220259.

**Catherine Moore Temple**

**ST NICHOLAS GUIDES** are currently planning to attend the West & Central Midlands Regional Camp in Rooskey, Co. Roscommon in May where they will be completing their Camper's Way Bronze & Silver badges, as well as taking part in a Regional cookout. To prepare for this, they will be doing their Outdoor Cook badge shortly where they will be cooking their own meal from a menu they planned themselves in their patrols. This past year, Guides have also worked on their First Aid Badges, Guiding Traditions Badge, and two guides earned their Lord Baden Powell badge, as well as continuing to take part in the challenges in the Guide Journey Programme. 8 new Guides were presented with their Guide Promise Pin this year after making their Guide promise for the first time. Xiao Yin Redmond, who earned her National Guide Award in 2017, made her Senior Branch promise and has been working with Guides as part of the leadership team. She is also continuing her guiding journey by making her way through the challenges in the Senior Branch programme.

**Caroline Flanagan**

#### TUNES IN THE CHURCH

The regular Tunes in the Church concerts commence on June 4<sup>th</sup> and take place Monday to Friday. Concerts start at 8pm and last one and a half hours. For a full programme of each concert visit the website [www.tunesinthechurch.com](http://www.tunesinthechurch.com).

#### COMMUNICATIONS

If you are not already receiving Parish information by email and would like to do so please send a request to [info@stnicholas.ie](mailto:info@stnicholas.ie).



We also use Facebook and Twitter to post about things which have happened and are about to happen so follow us there.

Work is currently underway to modernise the Parish website so we hope to have that up and running very shortly.

#### GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION - GDPR

You will have heard already that the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will take effect across Europe from 25 May 2018. It replaces the existing law on data protection and gives individuals more rights and protection in how their personal data is used by organisations. Personal data is information about a living person which is capable of identifying them. Parishes must comply with its requirements, just like any other charity or organisation.

Should you have any question about how we hold your data please email the Dean - [deantuum@gmail.com](mailto:deantuum@gmail.com)

#### Calendar of Special Events

*(Please see notice board in the church porch for information on the many choirs singing in the church during the summer— many of these concerts are free)*

May 12	11am Schola Coffee Concert—Mark Keane & Stephen Carroll
May 14	Welcome Desk Information Evening with refreshments
May 15	Re-opening of the Welcome Desk
May 20	11am Confirmation
May 26	11am Schola Concert Aisling Kenny (soprano), Ziv Braha (lute) and Collegium
June 4	8pm Tunes in the Church commence
June 5	1.10pm Lunchtime concert with Contempo
June 9	2pm Garden Fete
June 17	11am Choristers end of term service— prize giving, admission of new choristers and valedictions
	5pm Evensong sung by the Parish Choir

#### Parish Contact Information

##### Priest in Charge

*Alistair Grimason Ph. 085 2821073*

##### Choirmaster and Organist:

*Mark Duley, 087 6712301*

##### Churchwardens:-

*Gráinne Walsh 087 0323602*

*Paul Adams 086 1704038*

##### Sunday Club

*Sally Cunningham, (087 7791227)*

##### Mothers' Union:

*Heather Martin (Secretary) 086 8070258*

##### Brownies :

*Catherine M. Temple 089 4220259*

##### Guides:

*Caroline Flanagan email: [carolineirishgirlguides@gmail.com](mailto:carolineirishgirlguides@gmail.com)*

##### Flower List:

*Gráinne Walsh 087 0323602*

##### Coffee Rota:

*Olive Maher 087 7476506*

##### Treasurer:

*Heather Pope 086 8336666*

##### Secretary:

*Ann Walton, 087 2176799*

##### Concerts/Church Bookings:

*Catherine M. Temple 086 3898777*

##### School: 091 569233

*Wendy Walsh, Principal, Email: [galwayschool@gmail.com](mailto:galwayschool@gmail.com)*

##### Hall Lettings:

*Olive Maher 087 7476506*

##### Social Committee

*Heather Martin 086 8070258*

##### Grounds Maintenance

*Ray Plummer 087 9428857*

##### Parish Website:

*[www.stnicholas.ie](http://www.stnicholas.ie) Email: [info@stnicholas](mailto:info@stnicholas)*