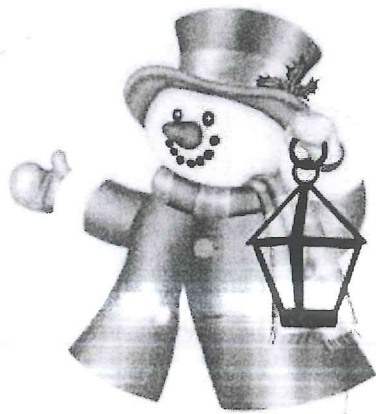


St Nicholas' Collegiate Church



Parish News, Winter 2019

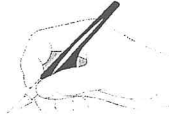
The Christmas Fayre - Saturday December 7th



The Fayre is only a month away - it would be great if you would start thinking now about the contribution you can make. The Bake Stall people love all home baking but particularly if you could think about making a Christmas Cake now (small ones are very popular) it would be great. Items needed for stalls, for those who are new to it, are China, Books, Toys, Vintage items, Homemade sweets, jams, marmalades, chutneys and Bric a Brac - in good condition. Unfortunately we cannot sell used electric items.

If you would like more information please email back or speak to one of the churchwardens at a Sunday service.

A letter from the rector.....



Dear Parishioners,

As I wrote last year, we were just settling into our new home in the rectory and it was early days, one year on and we call Galway 'home'. It's been quite the year, and a year of firsts. So, to the second will be equally as exciting and challenging as we embark on the 700th anniversary celebrations. You will see that much careful and thoughtful planning has gone into the celebrations. I commend the work of our 2020 committee and thank them and the vestry, volunteers and our Schola Cantorum family for the investment of love, time and energy into the projects, services and plans. Our beacon of light and hope must always be the Collegiate Church of St Nicholas, and the community and people who are the church and have been for 700 years.; so we celebrate St Nicholas past, present and present. All the plans will highlight the church as a spiritual home, a worshipping community, a sanctuary space, while also encapsulating the potential in future years hence the plans will have God in its heart and of course be mission and outreach centered. Everyone is welcome to participate, volunteer and celebrate!

But before the bells ring out on New Years Eve we have a busy advent and Christmas Season ahead, and more cause to prepare and celebrate. You and your family are most welcome to join us at any or all of the services.

If you are worshipping with us in the coming weeks you will realise that the church will be organized slightly differently. This is in line with our future plans and our conservation management plan and potential new organ. The vestry and I would value and appreciate your support as we navigate our way forward and discern what lay out will work for the church, liturgy and worshipping community. So in the coming months we will be experimenting with different configurations for different forms of worship. All of the configurations have been prayerfully and carefully thought through and with the advice of an expert.

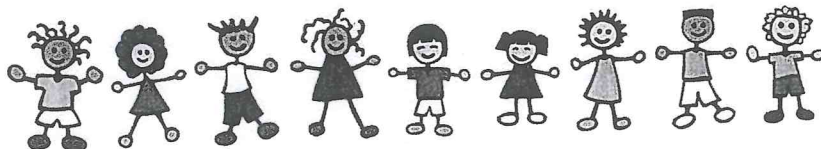
Thank you for all your have done, are doing and will do in the name of God and for our church. May we strive always to be Christ centered and make Gods kingdom come as it is in heaven.

I take this opportunity (if ever so slightly early), to wish you a very happy, joyous and peaceful Christmas, remembering and celebrating the 'Christ child' in Christmas.

Yours in Christ,

Lynda

Midweek Eucharist There is a service every Wednesday at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome for this short service, when we have an opportunity to pause midweek and focus. The service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat at Busker Browns.



Children's Church

Safeguarding Trust - On 3rd October Catherine Emerson kindly led the Safeguarding Trust Training for the parish. We were delighted to see such a good attendance and welcome the 26 people who were trained. Such was the demand for training we will also be having a Saturday morning training in the new year. We take this opportunity to thank all those involved in children's ministry in the parish, and look forward to being enabled to do more now that we have more committed and trained volunteers

Sunday Club - All Children attending Sunday Club must have a consent form, which are available from Churchwardens and leaders. They can also be emailed to you in advance. Thank you for your co-operation.

Christmas Party - Sunday Club Christmas Party - Sunday 15th Dec

Confirmation Club - All names should now be with the rector. The rector will be in touch in the next week with further details.

Diocesan Youth Outing - 11 plus Jump Lanes Galway 11. to 3.30pm
Please bring a packed lunch and your swimming gear! Rector has more info.

Childrens Club 'Rooted' - Saturday 14th December at 12 noon until 1.30pm join us for a fun morning of craft, stories, games and goodies.

The craft will be on display in the church over the Christmas Season. All children welcome to attend. It would be great if you could let the Sunday Club leaders or rector know in advance if you can make it.

Acolytes & Servers - We are currently hoping to recruit some new acolytes and servers aged 10 +. Training for all and all are welcome!

Side Chapel - New toys and mats have been purchased for the side chapel for use during Sunday services. Everyone is welcome, should they wish to avail of this space, where the service is piped in.

Christmas Nativity - Fri 13th Dec 10.30am St. Nicholas' School Christmas Pageant.

Compline

8.00pm Complines on Thursday evenings.
14th & 21st November.
(more will follow in Feb)

Compline is a contemplative candlelit service marking the close of day - - a night cap for the soul! These services are sung by the NUI Galway Choral Scholars.
All very welcome

Sunday Services

9am The Eucharist, short service

11am Sung Eucharist

Tidings—Our diocesan Tidings magazine will be available on Advent Sunday. A contribution is appreciated.

Our Christmas Charities this year are Local – Cope, International – The Jack and Jill Foundation & International – Bishops Appeal (specifically Medecins San Frontiers & Christian Aid).

The Giving Tree—will once again be placed in the Church for advent with instructions for specific gifts for specific charities. If you remove the tag, donate the detailed gift on the tag, wrap the gift and stick on the tag to the gift, they will then be distributed to the charities for Christmas. A lovely and tangible gesture and gift. In all the shopping this Christmas why not choose something for a special someone who is less fortunate than ourselves..



Chatty Crafters - Feel free to join the crafters every Thursday from 10.00am. Both chatters and crafters always welcome.

Advent Sun 1st December

9.00am Holy Communion

11.00am Sung Eucharist

5.00pm

Advent Procession

A dramatic candlelit service of music, readings and movement - - the perfect preparation for the festive season! sung by the Parish Choir

Christmas Services

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| Sun 22 nd | 4.00pm Annual Civic Carol Service
<i>sung by all choirs of the Schola Cantorum</i> |
| Tues 24 th | Christmas Eve
4.00pm Carols Around the Christmas Tree
9.00pm The First Eucharist of Christmas |
| Wed 25 th | Christmas Day
11.00am Eucharist for Christmas Day |