



# St Peter's Church, Phibsborough Parish Newsletter

Pentecost Sunday  
20 May 2018

## OUR COMMON HUMANITY

As pastors we are aware that the conversation about unborn life is sensitive, delicate and, indeed, painful for many. We offer our reflections with the greatest of respect for everyone while wishing to make some points clearly and unambiguously ahead of the referendum on the Eighth Amendment on 25 May 2018.

### A Fundamental right

Every one of us has a right to our life. It is not given to us by the Constitution of Ireland or by any law. We have it 'as of right', whether we are wealthy or poor, healthy or sick. All human beings have it. For us as a society to now declare that any category of human being should have that right taken away would be a shocking step. We would effectively be saying that unborn children do not exist or, if they do, they do not count. That is a manifest injustice.

### Life begins at conception

At every point, from conception on, the baby has the potential to realise the fullness of life that God intended. All that is needed is time and nurturing. Today we see more clearly that human life begins at conception. There is no later stage in a baby's development that we can say, 'Up until now the foetus was not a person and now it has become a baby.'

### Are we allowing ourselves to be desensitised?

Making abortion freely available desensitises people to the value of every human life. The scientific evidence about the beginning of human life has never been clearer. It is, therefore, a great irony that in Ireland we are for the first time in our history losing our clarity about the right to life of the unborn. Knowledge about the mysterious workings of DNA and the stunningly vivid evidence of ultrasound images of little persons in the earliest weeks in the womb should be making us more committed than ever to the protection of unborn life.

**We invite people of faith to pray earnestly that Ireland will 'choose life' and that the lives of all women and their unborn children will always be loved, valued, welcomed and respected in this country.**

### Choose life

The child in the womb has life and potential. However, like all babies, before birth or in the early years, she or he has no choice. Powerless to defend themselves, they rely on the rest of us to protect their lives and vindicate their rights. By using the word 'choice' we need to remember that, for the baby waiting to be born, the choice we make can be a matter of life or death.

### Two lives, one love

An expectant mother needs and deserves the care and support of everyone around her, particularly if her pregnancy poses a serious crisis for her and her family. A mother may be informed that her baby faces serious challenges or is perhaps terminally ill. She might be pregnant as a result of rape. Especially in those tragic cases, both the mother and her unborn child can – and must – be loved and cherished.

A compassionate society will do all in its power to support and love the mother and baby, and encourage responsible support from fathers. This vision of life makes sense to people of all faiths and none. Though enriched by our Catholic faith, it is our common humanity that convinces us of the right to life of every human being.

### A declaration of equality

Article 40.3.3 is a declaration of equality and respect for human life. It represents, at the very foundations and substructure of our laws, a conviction that all human life is worth cherishing equally. To repeal this article would leave unborn children at the mercy of whatever permissive abortion laws might be introduced in Ireland in the future.



Statement of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference  
on the right to life of the unborn child

## Parish Clergy

Fr Aidan CM - [pp@stpetersphibsboro.ie](mailto:pp@stpetersphibsboro.ie)

## Parish Office

Monday - Friday

9.30am - 12.30pm

T: +353 1 838 9708

F: +353 1 838 9950

E: [info@stpetersphibsboro.ie](mailto:info@stpetersphibsboro.ie)

W: [www.stpetersphibsboro.ie](http://www.stpetersphibsboro.ie)

## Monday Novena

*"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."*

The Miraculous Medal Novena continues each Monday evening at 7.00pm. All are encouraged to attend.

## Legion of Mary

Our Lady of All Nations takes place on Monday's in the Frank Duff Room from 7.00pm (entrance via Parish Office).

## AMM Meeting

The Association of the Miraculous Medal will hold their next monthly meeting on Monday, 21 May. Exposition followed by meeting for all active members and for those wishing to join. All are most welcome.

## Patrician Meeting

The Legion of Mary will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, 22 May in the Frank Duff Room (via the Parish Office) at 7.30pm. The topic for discussion is 'Peace'. All are welcome.

## Join us as we Pray for Vocations

On Thursday's after Mass the Vincentian Community here in St Peter's invite you to join with them in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for vocations to the Vincentian Community in Ireland.

## Legion of Mary

Meetings take place on Monday's and Wednesday's from 7.00pm in the **Frank Duff Room** (via the Parish Office)

### Monday

Our Lady, Queen of All Nations

### Wednesday

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament



## Mass Times

### Sunday

Saturday vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am, 11.30am, 2.15pm (African Mass, 1st Sunday of each month), 4.00pm (Indian Mass, 2nd Sunday of each month) & 6.30pm

### Monday - Friday

10.30am (& Monday at 7.00pm followed by Novena, except Bank Holidays)

### Holy Days of Obligation

10.30am & 6.30pm

### Confessions

Saturday immediately following the 10.30am Mass and at the Parish Office by request

## Data Protection

A new European Data Protection law, the General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR"), is being introduced on 25 May 2018. This new law applies to any organisation, including our parish that manages and processes people's personal information. We are now working on ways of ensuring that what we do with your information is compliant with this new law. It is a work in progress and over the next few months we will keep you informed through the parish website and in the newsletter as policies are put in place. If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

## The Humanitarian Symphony Orchestra (HSO)

will perform in concert at Our Lady of Dolours Church, Botanic Ave, Drumcondra, Dublin 9, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June @ 8pm. The concert promises to be a wonderful evening of modern and classical music. All welcome! ~ Supporting Your Local Orchestra ~ Tickets available at the door on the night. Doors Open @ 7.30pm Adults € 10 / Concession € 5 / Children Under 12 Free

## Church Gate Collection

This week's collection is in aid of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary (Killeshandra Sisters), our former neighbours at Dalymount, which were founded in 1924 by Bishop Joseph Shanahan, a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit working in Nigeria. He saw a need for religious sisters to work among the local women, promoting health, education and development. Today they work in 12 countries in Africa, and Central / South America. Joined by a large number of Sisters from Africa and South America, together they minister to and work with refugees and with those displaced by war and famine in an effort to help people make better lives for themselves. In Ireland they work with refugees and asylum seekers as well as caring for the Sisters who have returned after a lifetime of service on the missions.

## *Family Prayer*

*Let us pray for those who make our laws:  
that they will uphold the uniqueness  
and sacredness of every human life,  
from the first moment of conception  
to natural death.*

*Amen.*

## In Loving Memory

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who died recently.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.



## Pentecost Sunday

*St Bernardine of Siena is not celebrated this year*

### Readings

Acts 2:1-11.

Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34.

Gal 5:16-25

Jn 15, 26-27; 16, 12-15.

## Monday

*Sts Christopher Magallanes, Priest and Companies, Martyrs*

Mass with Novena Prayers 7.00pm

Legion of Mary 7.00pm

A Word on the Word 7.30pm

## Tuesday

*St Rita of Cascia, Religious*

Patrician Meeting 7.30pm

## Wednesday

*St Joan Antide Thouret, Virgin*

Legion of Mary 7.00pm

## Thursday

Prayer for Vocations directly after Mass

## Friday

*St Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor*

*St Gregory VII, Pope*

*St Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, Virgin*

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## Weekly Collections

Recent collections amounted to:

Church (13 May) = €1,164.79

Share (13 May) = € 371.57

Thank you very much for your continued support.

## Church Gate Collections

This week's is in aid of the Holy Rosary Sisters. See page 2 for more details. Next week's will be in aid of the Ladies of Charity. Founded by St Vincent de Paul they seek to help those in need in the local area. Their only source of funding is the monthly Church Gate collection, every cent of which is greatly appreciated.

# Garden Party



**Sunday, 17 June**  
**2.00pm - 5.00pm**

## St Peter's Church Phibsborough

(entrance from Cabra Road)



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