

**Mass Times**

Saturday: 6.30 (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9.00,  
9.45 (Convent),  
10.30, 12.00

Weekdays:

10.00 Monday – Friday

7.30 Tuesday Only

**No Tuesday Evening Mass  
in July and August**

**Baptism**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of  
each month

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month

Preparation meetings for  
Parents and Godparents are  
held twice each month.

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Mon 10.30 – 4.00

Wed 10.30 – 9.00

Fri 10.30 – 9.00

**Divine Mercy Meeting**

Every Wed Evening @ 8.00  
in the Prayer Room

**Parish Council Meeting**

Tue 14 June @ 8.00

**Church Collection Totals**

**Week Beginning 29/5**

First Collection 510

WMF Collection 435

Family Offering 899



**Rest in Peace**

Bob Boxwell

*Blessings and Sympathy  
to the Family*

**Ballyfermot Star  
Annual Commemoration  
St. Matthew's  
Thu 16 June @ 7.30**



***Feast of St. Matthew  
Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes***

17 – 22 September 2016

€739 per person sharing

(inclusive of Airport Taxes and Insurance)  
Single Room Supplement €175 per person

All Meals Included

Deposit €200 per person

**Booking forms available  
from Parish Centre**

### SPECIAL NOTICE

I want to draw your attention to a special book launch that is coming up soon, for a number of reasons. First of all, this book is in support of Aoife Beary, Berkeley survivor, and the Aoife Beary Trust Fund. Secondly, it is written by our very own Kathryn Crowley, the Principal of St. Louise's, our much valued primary school. Thirdly, having read Kathryn's previous collection of short stories, and really enjoyed them, I can heartily recommend this new collection.

#### ROOM FOR ONE MORE.

Books can be purchased from  
[www.emuink.ie](http://www.emuink.ie)  
or from reception in St. Louise's.

### Gospel Readings for the Week

Mon 13 Jun	<b>Mt 5:38-42</b>	Pray for those who persecute you
Tue 14	<b>Mt 5:43-48</b>	Even the pagans do as much
Wed 15	<b>Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18</b>	Do not put on a gloomy look
Thu 16	<b>Mt 6:7-15</b>	You should pray like this
Fri 17	<b>Mt 6:19-23</b>	Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also
Sat 18	<b>Mt 6:24-34.</b>	That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life
Sun 19	<b>Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	

### Mini-Camino Walk of the Five Parishes of the Cluster

Starts Chapelizod → Palmerstown → Cherry Orchard →  
St. Matthew's → Assumption with Refreshments  
This Sunday June 12 @ 1.30 starting at Chapelizod  
For further information contact  
[jane.mellet@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:jane.mellet@dublindiocese.ie)

### FAITH MOMENT

Did you know that the FOUR marks, or essential features of the Church are:

**One.....Holy.....Catholic.....Apostolic**

This speaks of unity, goodness, universality and is founded on the faith of the Apostles.

### Mass Intentions

Sat 11 Jun	6.30	Maurice Harrington	Harry Harrington	Phyllis Nolan
		Christina Short	Owen Short	Eddie Kelly
		Esther Sheridan		
Sun 12	10.30	John Fullam	John McKeogh	
Sun 12	12.00	Elizabeth O'Brien		
Thur 16	10.00	Patrick Jones		

### BOOK OF THE WEEK

A PATH TO HEALING A NATION  
BY FRANCES HOGAN,

THE COLUMBA PRESS 2013 pp 218

Frances Hogan is a world renowned lay missionary and educator working in the Catholic Church since the late 1960s. She is steeped in Sacred Scripture.

This is a beautiful book. It will require some effort but if you read it I am confident you will be more than adequately rewarded. It gave me a renewed sense of God's love for us, and increased my love for Scripture.

### Cemetery Masses

**Palmerstown: Sun 19 June @ 3.00**

**Glasnevin: Sun 26 June @ 3.00**

**Newlands Cross: Sun 10 July @ 3.00**

**Esker: Sun 28 Aug @ 3.00**

### Bone Marrow for Leukaemia Trust

The Annual Church Gate Collection will take place this Sat/Sun after all the Masses

### MINI FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Original amount of loan.....	24 <sup>th</sup> February 2009 .....	€650,000.00
First monthly repayment 1 .....	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2009 .....	€6,125.83
Remaining amount of loan on .....	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2016 .....	€20,612.89

€75,000 was paid off this loan after the sale of Presbytery No.3 and the repayments were reduced to €3,000 per month from €6,125.83 per month.

The last payment of €3,000 is due 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016

The money given to the first collection is for the support of the priests of the parish and the sick and retired priests of the diocese.

The second collection is usually for SHARE, though it is often replaced by a Special Collection. Recent example of this would be your great generosity to Trocaire, €2,558.15

The only way to contribute to the running of St. Matthew's is through the

- Family Offering Envelopes,
- Lighting Candles at the various Shrines in the church and
- Donations specifically given to help us

The account for the upkeep of the church, as of 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016, is **€23,365** overdrawn.

This is largely due to recent significant expenditure on, among other things, a new alarm system and a new phone system.

**SINCERE THANKS TO ALL OF YOU  
FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ST. MATTHEW'S.**

# Rumblings from the Bunker

## NCT NOTIFICATION.....(AN URGENT REMINDER)

I don't know if it is the same for you, but I am surprised how quickly the time for the NCT, (National Car Test), comes around. This of course is equally true with regard to time for a service. I suppose life is so fast, that before we know it, oil needs changing, tyres are worn, bulbs are going, and the poor old motor needs some tender loving care. Of course, this is not just true of our cars, it is also true of our bodies: maybe even more so. If we neglect our teeth, our hair, or our feet, we end up paying a high price. These days we will often hear advertisements urging us to have a full medical. Oftentimes we are reminded that for men over a specific age they should have such and such a check, and similarly for women. It is true, just like the old car, our bodies show signs of wear and tear, and need periodic attention. Indeed now more than ever, apart from the need to avoid passing minor ailments or more serious illness, we are more conscious of pampering our bodies. This is particularly evident in the increasing availability, and indeed demand for, massage, makeovers and spa treatments. In addition to this physical reality more and more people have become conscious of their inner world. Many turn to counselling or psychotherapy, and there is a surge of interest in, what is rather loosely referred to as mindfulness. If we are increasingly concerned for our cars and our bodies, both skin deep and deeper, surely we should at least consider the question, that this might also be true of our souls?

**'For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?' ( Mk.8:36)**

I wonder if we brought our souls in for a complete service how would we fare? Would there be much work to be done before we passed the NCT for souls? How many of us would get off with a few minor adjustments? How many of us would need major work? My feeling is that most souls coming in for a service these days would need considerable work. This is not all the individual driver's fault. There are very definite factors at work over which we have very little control. The truth is that the spiritual environment that we live in is not always good for our souls. There is a smog hanging in the air that makes our souls ill. Apart from the personal things which we can become involved in, that can lead to soul-sickness, there are some more general, as it were environmental causes, of this often neglected dis-ease. Noise, technology and the general pace of life are often not conducive to a healthy soul. There are many who simply cannot handle silence. It frightens them. God knows what might come up from the silence. Maybe ghosts from the past, or indeed a futuristic fear that may jump out at us. The truth is that we can broker a peace treaty with silence. Silence can become our friend. For example none of us want to be lonely. Loneliness slowly suffocates our soul, but what if the ache of loneliness was to become a lovely desirable solitude? Might not it then become balm for the soul; healing and soothing.

How might we know if we are suffering from soul-sickness? A lack of joy might be a good indication that all is not well. We need to be careful though, not to confuse joy with happiness. Happiness is passing and often superficial, and the truth is there is not much wrong with it, as long as we do not confuse it with real and lasting joy. Joy is a gift of the Holy Spirit and is as deep as a draw well. The vacuum created by the absence of joy will often be filled with an early indication of serious soul-sickness, that of cynicism. Cynicism is a spiritual cancer. It sucks the goodness out of life. It slowly kills our ability to enjoy. Technology of course is not always bad. It helps though, if we remain in control, rather than become controlled by it. Social media is a powerful tool for getting, and remaining, connected. It can also be good fun. However I have just had a lovely afternoon with one of my best friends. We greeted each other with a good warm hug, and did the same when we were parting. We drank lattes and chatted and laughed and nearly cried. I enjoyed it all and was glad to see his face and smile. I was happy to watch his many facial changes. I was engaged by the music of his varying tones. More than this my friends I would not swap the joy of meeting him in person in exchange for two hundred friends on Facebook.

Finally it might be helpful to ask what might be involved in a complete overhaul and service for the soul? In the same way, as at the NCT there is a checklist which signals sound car health, so too there might be at least the makings of a spiritual health list. In the same way that our bodies our unique, so too are our souls, so any list should be approached with caution. Some generalisations might be helpful. A daily mix of spiritual reading, prayerful silence and reflective attendance at some communal liturgy, more often than not, the Eucharist, will certainly contribute enormously to soul-health. Good choices regarding books read, and movies watched can be important. The people with whom we spend quality time can often contribute, or detract, from soul-nourishment. So a pro-active decision might be to cut down on time with the cynical person, and perhaps increase time with the more positive or hope-filled person. In addition to all this I would not underestimate the value of a good Spiritual Director, nor the impact of an annual pilgrimage. Finally I would like to record a little clarification on mindfulness, mainly because it is so much in vogue at the moment. Mindfulness and meditation, and to some extent yoga, have all become attractive as an antidote to stress. They are offered as methods of becoming calm. Indeed some say that each of these are, to a greater or lesser extent, instrumental in lowering blood pressure. I am sure there is truth in all this. However I am a little alarmed at how people tend to equate this with prayer. The question I would ask is, where does the specific practice lead to? Often it is explained as a form of decluttering or emptying of the mind. Admittedly there is some overlap here with Christian Meditation and prayer. This is true in the idea of emptying, but it's what happens then that is crucial. In so many of these practices the aim is to empty, to declutter or to rid one's mind of internal noise and distraction. What ensues is relaxation and calm.

However for us as pilgrims, as followers of Jesus we are called to more, much more. We are called to deep communion with the Lord. If it's Christian, then the emptying, the quietening the decluttering is done in order to invite Jesus into the space that has opened up. It's when we invite Jesus into this space that we are at prayer. When this happens we have moved from a relaxing exercise, that may well lower our blood pressure, to the exciting adventure that is prayer. When we get serious about prayer everything changes. So my friends the next time you are preparing for the National Car Test remember that **Now is Christ's Time!**