



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



Synod on Synodality (Thursday 12th October 2023) ... PRAY FOR PEACE

Quest for fraternity, not war, is only solution to conflict

At Thursday's Synod briefing, several participants share their reflections on the topics under discussion in the General Assembly, which include **a prayer for the serious situation in the Middle East.**

The Middle East, Ukraine, Iraq, Africa: **Prayer for peace unites the Church all over the world.**

Power of prayer for peace

Among those bringing her witness to the journalists present was Margaret Karram, president of the Focolare Movement, an Arab Catholic of Israeli and Palestinian origin.

She told journalists that the prayer of supplication on Thursday morning at the Synod was "a very strong moment", because "ever since the war broke out, my heart has been broken and I wondered what I was doing here at the Synod. Joining in prayer with everyone was a very profound moment."

According to Margaret Karram, many efforts are needed for peace, but "**the power of prayer is crucial**".

"This experience is teaching me what it means **to walk together, to dialogue, to let oneself be challenged by others, and synodality is not just a methodology, it must become a way of life of the Church: listening to the other with respect, beyond different opinions,**" she said.

Weekly Church Collections

Collections taken up at Weekend Masses

Are NOT part of Parish Income but are as follows:

THE FIRST/COMMON FUND COLLECTION at the weekend Masses and Holy Days together with Christmas and Easter Dues supports the priests of the parish, sick and retired priests, priests in low-income parishes and priests working in special ministries throughout our Diocese.

THE SECOND/SHARE COLLECTION, the SHARE Collection provides essential pastoral services supporting all parishes. SHARE also provides support to low-income parishes and contributes to initiatives of the Irish Bishops' Conference.

The donation machines at the back of the Church are also for the **First and Second collections ONLY**

All of the above collections go directly into the Finance Department of Archbishops House

Parish Income

The Family Offering Collection is the ONLY source of income to meet the running costs of the parish.

The Family Offering pays for the expenses of running the parish as well as maintaining the church and parish buildings. Contributions to the Family Offering are either by the **weekly envelope** (that parishioners receive a year's supply box of at the beginning of the each year). Or by bankers' **standing order or direct debit.**

If you would like to contribute to the parish directly please contact Teresa in the parish office to arrange for either a box of the weekly envelopes or for the bank details for Standing order or direct debit

Mission Sunday Collection Next Weekend

World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father's annual appeal to support overseas mission and missionaries.



It takes place in every single parish worldwide where the Church is present.

In Ireland, Missio Ireland is tasked with organising the Mission Sunday collection. Missio Ireland is the Pope's official charity for overseas mission. ***This collection will replace the Share Collection***

20 years of Child Safeguarding & Protection Service:

Keeping our focus on protecting children



Child Safeguarding & Protection Service

This year marks the **20th anniversary** of the Child Safeguarding & Protection Service.

It is an opportunity to look back on where we have come from, on what has been achieved and by whom.

It is also an opportunity to look to the future, to what remains to be done and to the challenges that persist.

The September issue of the Child Safeguarding Newsletter is available to read on the notice board at the back of the Church. Copies of the Newsletter are also available on the tables at the back of the Church to take home.

Synod Newsletter

Issue 3 of the Synod Newsletter is available to read on the notice board at the back of the Church. Copies of the Newsletter are also available on the tables at the back of the Church to take home.

