



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown

Welcome Back To Our School Children

**WELCOME BACK
TO SCHOOL**



We would like to extend a warm welcome back to the children and staff of Ballown Meadows Special School, who returned to school mid-February.

The children from junior infants to second class will return to our schools of St. Columbanus National School and Gaolscoil Phádraig on Monday.

We also welcome back the Principals, teachers and Special Needs Assistants for both schools.

The remainder of the children from third to sixth class will hopefully return to school on Monday, 15th March.

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

During Lent we have **Hope Half Hour** and our **Wednesday Quiet Prayer**
From 7.30 to 8pm

Wednesday Quiet Prayer

Quiet Silent Prayer, Prayer of Presence is often seen as a cure for modern life's frenzy. But our reason for offering it is "to be in God's presence", as simple and as wonderful as that!

Our relationship with God changes, from wanting things from Him to simply being there with God, with no other motive.

A priest serving a rural parish tells the story of an old lady who was housebound for many years with arthritis. He has called in, and sat for a while to chat. 'I suppose, Brigid,' he said, 'you have time to say a lot of prayers for us all'. 'Indeed Father,' she answered, 'I must confess that I don't say many prayers. You see it's like this,' she said. 'I begin to say the Our Father and I say "Our Father," and I think how wonderful it is to be able to call Him Father. And that seems so wonderful that I can't get any further. I just sit and wonder at it.'

(Finding Your Hidden Treasure - Benigus O'Rourke)

Always on Wednesday during Lent, after our quiet time, we have a short reading from Jesus' passion and some prayers. Our time is 7.30 to 8pm on our Parish Webcam.

Hope Half Hour

The link to the second talk of the Lenten Hope Half Hour series - entitled 'Exercising Faith' (in which we discuss the importance of faith, our firm foundation of faith and some hindrances and help to our growing in faith) will be placed on the Parish Website. It will be sent on Tuesday by email to those Parishioners for whom we have email addresses.

Please set aside a half hour or so each week to tune in to this talk - and to those which will be released in the following three weeks.

Last week's talk entitled 'The Privileges of being a Son or Daughter of God' was released last Tuesday. If you missed this, the link will be available on the Parish Website.

If you didn't receive the email, please ask Teresa, our Parish Secretary, to send you a Parishioner Registration Form so that we will have your details for future communications.

Fr. P. Enda Lloyd Co-Parish Priest

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