



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown

**We're Going Back To School**



**Welcome Back All School Children**

We would like to welcome back our school principals, teachers and children, returning to school this week.

We especially welcome the children who are entering their first day of primary school and those entering first year in secondary school.

We pray for a happy, healthy and safe return to the classroom for all.

We pray for those who have left school and are awaiting their exam results next week.

May God guide and protect them in the next chapter of their lives and the future.

*We will keep them in our prayers.*

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**Extract From An Article In The Irish Catholic**

**By Fr. Sylvester O'Flynn OFM Cap.**

†The Irish Catholic

Jesus was deeply disturbed by the travesty of a religion enmeshed in legalism. "You put aside the commandments of God to cling to human traditions."

Rules about ritual purification had sucked the beauty out of true worship.

Pope Francis wrote that certain customs not directly related to the heart of the Gospel are no longer properly understood or appreciated.

Think of a bishop's residence being called a palace or how trappings of power which were meaningful in their time but are off-putting today. The Church is not meant to be a museum of dead fossils.

Jesus set up a Church to be missionary, to be with the people, giving them meaning, hope, direction, compassion and God's love above all.

We must not be afraid to let go of obsolete customs or rules in order to be more relevant to the needs of our time.

The guiding challenge must always be, what would Jesus do? What would Jesus say? Would Jesus recognise the Church today as the Church that he set up?

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**SEASON OF CREATION**

**Season of Creation 2021**  
**September 1<sup>st</sup> to October 4<sup>th</sup>**

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration of prayer and action for our common home. Together, the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect God's creation.

The season starts 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

We hope that this Season of Creation renews our baptismal call to care and sustain this ecological turning so that life may flourish, and all creatures may find their place to flourish in our common home.

For practical suggestions for each day of the Season log onto:

<https://www.trocaire.org/documents/acts-of-love-for-the-season-of-creation>

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**Church Opening Hours For Private Prayer**

**Mondays and Fridays 11am to 6.30pm**  
**Wednesdays 11am to 8pm**

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